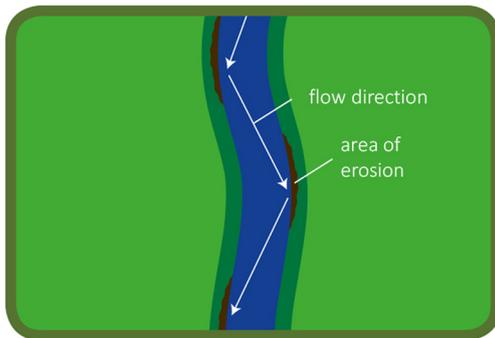
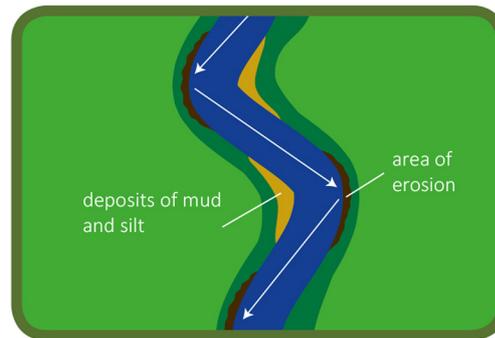


# Meander



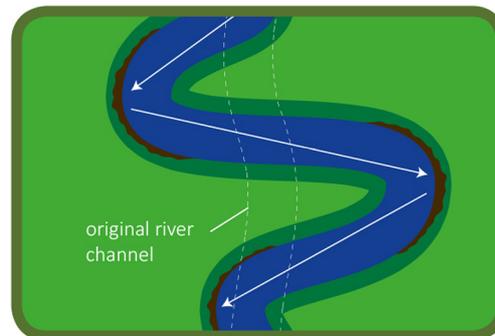
**1.** The river begins to curve when fast-flowing water starts to erode the riverbank.



**2.** As the riverbank erodes on the outside of each bend, mud and silt are deposited on the inside of each bend.

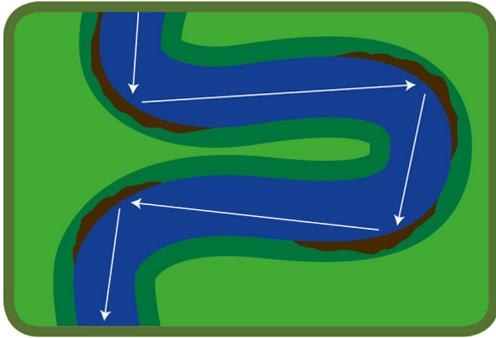


**3.** As time passes, the meander grows.

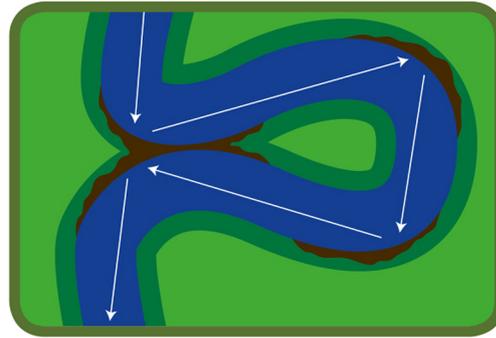


**4.** The river now twists and turns through the landscape and looks very different from when the process started.

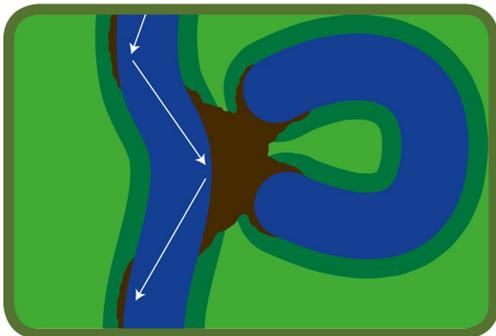
## Oxbow lake



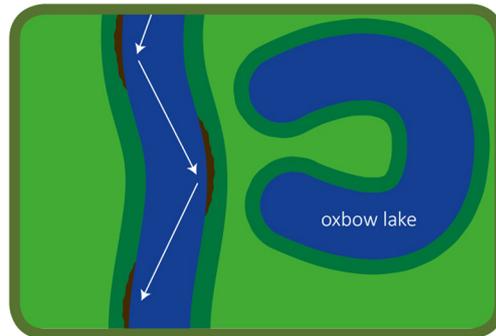
**1.** A large meander forms in a river.



**2.** When the meander gets large enough, the river bends back on itself until the two riverbanks are almost touching.

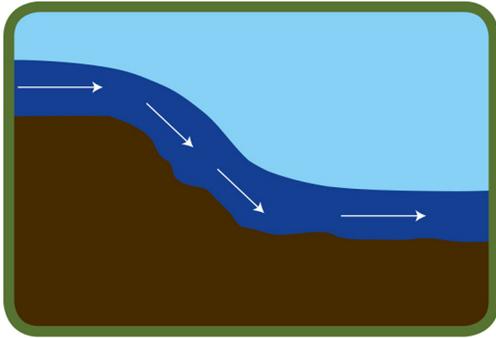


**3.** Eventually, the water breaks through the riverbanks and the river becomes straighter again.

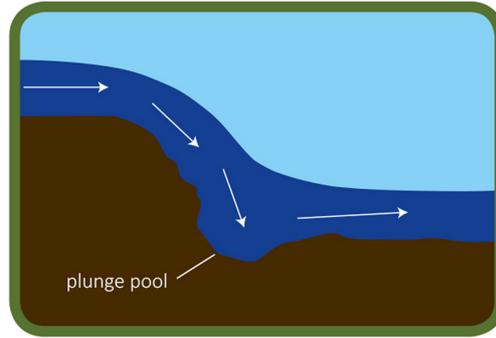


**4.** The meander is now cut off from the river and becomes a separate lake.

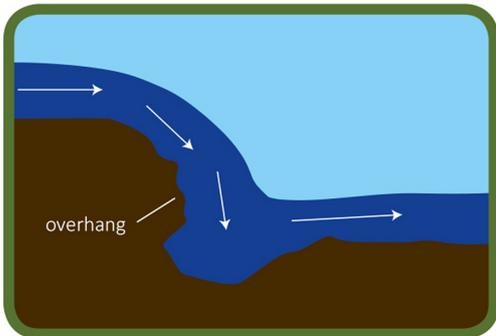
# Waterfall



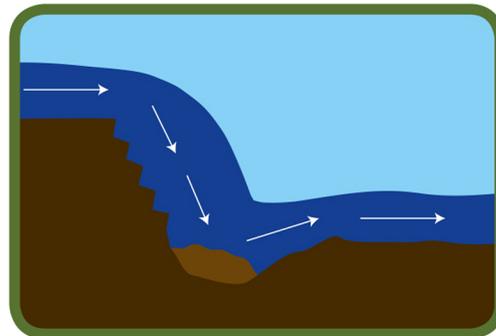
**1.** When the path of a river reaches a steep slope or hill, the water flows down to the lower level over a section of rapids.



**2.** The power of the falling water erodes the rock at the bottom of the slope, creating a plunge pool.

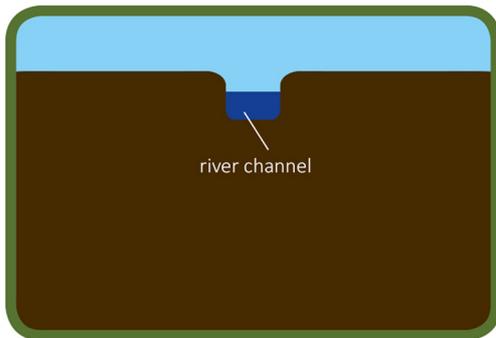


**3.** Over time, the plunge pool gets larger, and the water cuts into the rock at the back of the pool, making an overhang.

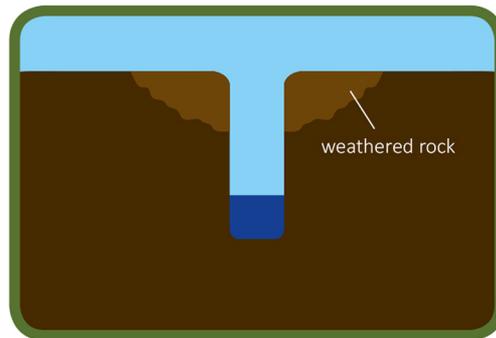


**4.** The overhang eventually gets too heavy and falls into the plunge pool, creating a steeper drop and turning the rapids into a waterfall.

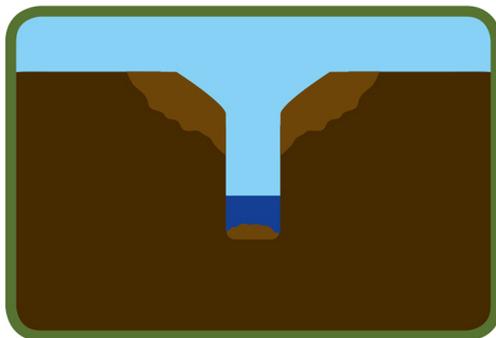
## V-shaped valley



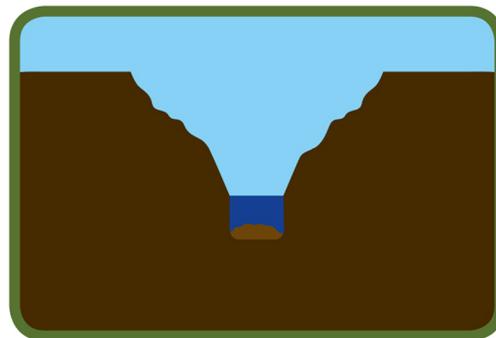
**1.** As a river flows, it cuts a channel into the rock below it. Over time, this channel gets deeper, creating a valley.



**2.** The rocks at the top of the valley are weakened by the wind, rain and ice. This is known as weathering.

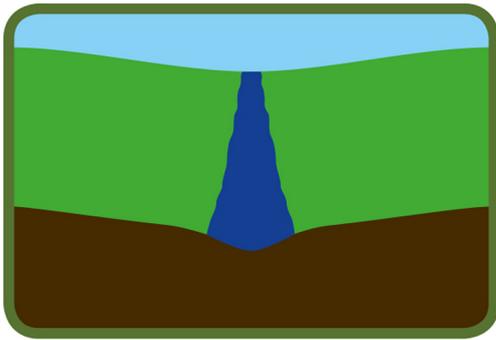


**3.** The weathered rock begins to break off and fall down the slope towards the river.

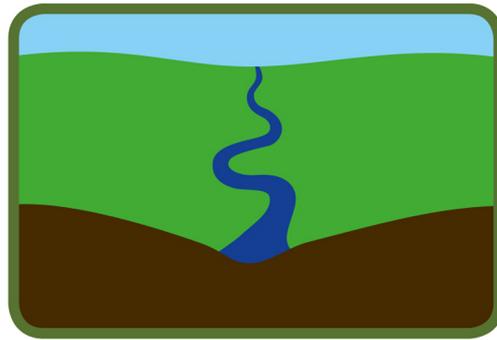


**4.** As the weathering of the valley top continues, more rocks break off to make a steep, V-shaped valley.

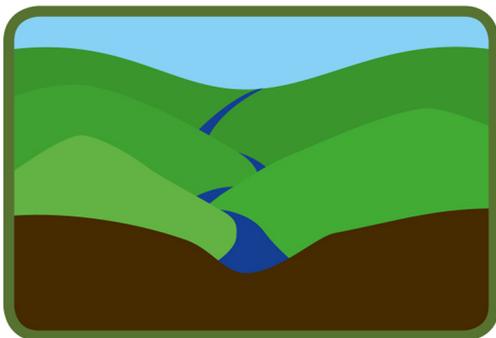
## Interlocking spurs



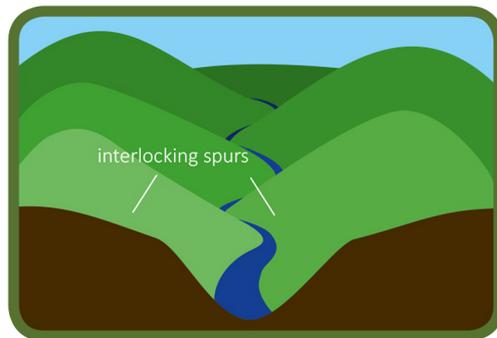
**1.** Interlocking spurs are formed in the same way as a V-shaped valley, when the river cuts its way through the rock.



**2.** Some rocks are harder for the river to cut through, so the water flows around them instead.



**3.** The meandering river continues to cut its channel down through the softer rock, but the harder rock remains where the river bends.



**4.** Over time, a V-shaped valley is formed but with interlocking spurs of land matching the meanders in the river.