I'm here to explore how deposition creates landforms.

Sediment from upstream is transported downstream and deposited or dropped off when rivers lose energy.

Two depositional landforms are floodplains and levees.

A floodplain is a stretch of wide, flat land typically found in the middle and lower course of the of the river.

Floods take place when a river overflows its channel and spreads out across this area.

As flood water slows down, it deposits fine material like silt and clay that's been transported downstream.

Over time repeated flooding builds up fertile, very flat land.

In the lower course, rivers often have raised ridges called levees along their banks.

When a river floods, it quickly loses energy as water spreads across the floodplain.

Heavier sediment like gravel is deposited closest to the river building up natural embankments.

With repeated flooding, these levees grow higher and more distinctive.

Floodplains and levees help to reduce future floods.

Levees act like a barrier to contain more water within the river's channel and floodplains provide large areas that store water on land.