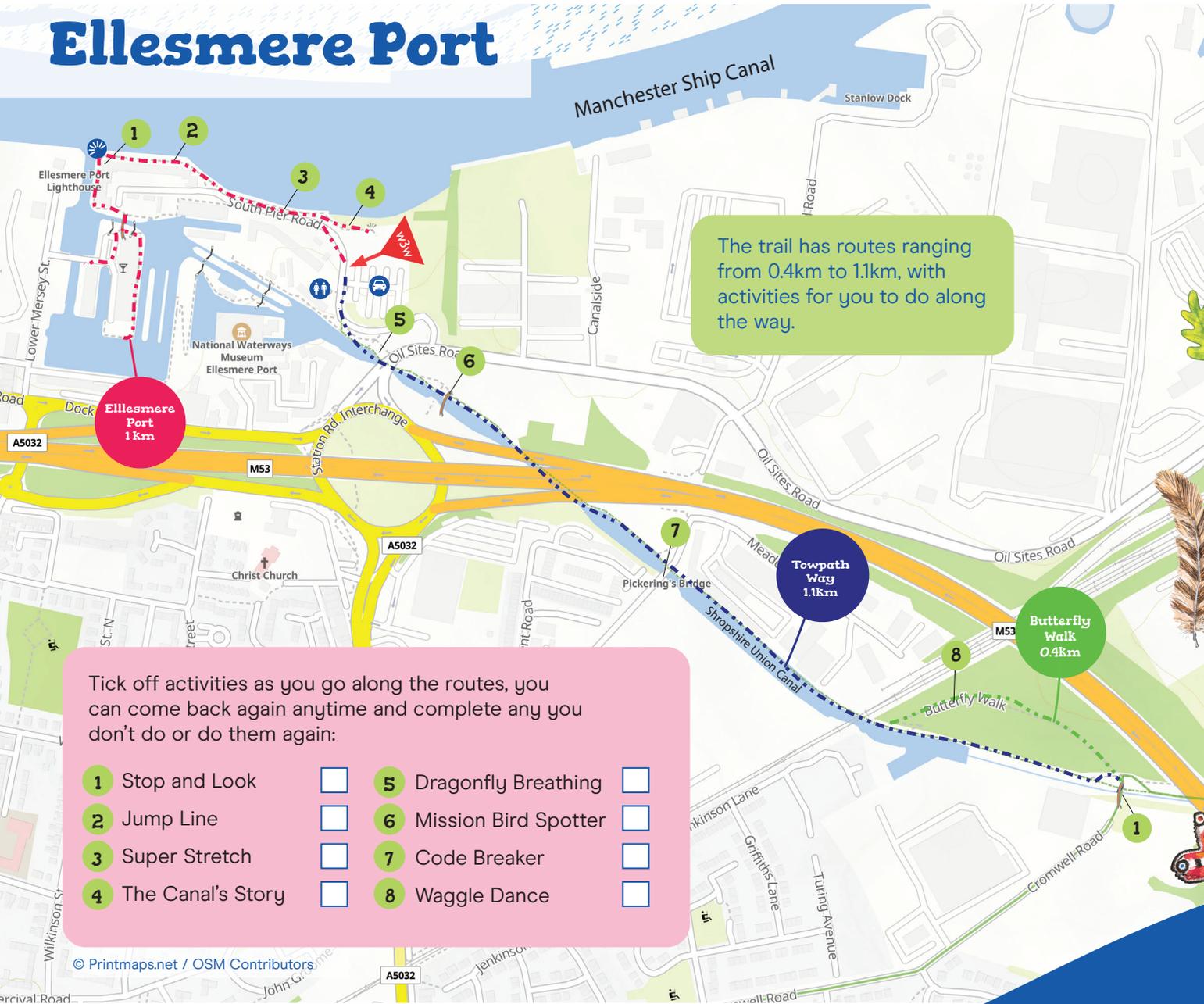


Ellesmere Port



The trail has routes ranging from 0.4km to 1.1km, with activities for you to do along the way.

- Tick off activities as you go along the routes, you can come back again anytime and complete any you don't do or do them again:
- | | | | |
|---------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 Stop and Look | <input type="checkbox"/> | 5 Dragonfly Breathing | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2 Jump Line | <input type="checkbox"/> | 6 Mission Bird Spotter | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3 Super Stretch | <input type="checkbox"/> | 7 Code Breaker | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4 The Canal's Story | <input type="checkbox"/> | 8 Waggle Dance | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Let's Go Outdoors!

Family Wellbeing Trail

Location: Ellesmere Port

▲ What3words: angel.photo.factor

Hello, Explorers!

We're the Canal & River Trust, and we care for over 2000 miles of canals and rivers across England and Wales.

Spending time moving by the water makes us happier and healthier — so Let's Go Outdoors! and explore our Ellesmere Port wellbeing trail together.

Share your moments:
@canalrivertrust

Explore fun activities:
canalrivertrust.org.uk/explorers



Remember to stay **SAFE** near water and **Stay Away From the Edge**. Be sensible, never enter the water and in an emergency, call 999 immediately.

We would love to hear your feedback on this activity. Please fill in our quick survey.



Working with Happy Confident Kids, this project is made possible by Sport England to enable families to move and connect with nature along our wonderful waterways.



1 Stop and Look



Looking out into the distance is a great way to exercise our eyes.

- So stand at this view point and look far into the distance.
- What is the furthest thing you can spot?

Looking at faraway views calms your brain and helps you to spark new ideas.

2 Jump Line

Use pebbles or small items to create a line—stay well away from the canal edge.

Try these jumps:

- **Two-foot taps:** Jump both feet over the line. How many times can you go back and forth?
- **One-foot hop:** Hop over using one foot, then switch feet. Can you keep your balance?
- **Side-to-side:** With the line between your feet, jump side to side without touching it.
- **Zig-zag:** Jump forward and diagonally left and right, like a zig-zag path.
- **Long jump:** Find a small gap or crack and leap over it in one big jump—only if it's safe to do so.

Jumping raises our heartrate & makes us feel more energized and awake.

3 Super Stretch

Stretching helps release tension from our muscles, which helps our minds feel calm and relaxed.

1. Tall tree stretch

- Stand tall. Reach up high like you're touching the clouds or tallest tree.
- Breathe in and hold for 3... feel the stretch.

2. Windy tree sway

- Keep arms up and gently lean side to side, like a tree in the breeze.
- Stretch each side slowly.

3. Heron stretch

- Bend forward, arms dangling toward your toes.
- Let your head relax and feel the back of your legs stretch.

4. Canal bird wings

- Arms out wide—big bird wings.
- Make slow, wide circles—forward, then back.

How good does that feel now?



4 Canal's Story

Find a peaceful spot by the canal. Sit down and take notice of the nature that surrounds you whilst you listen to our story.



5 Dragonfly Breathing

Imagine you're an incredible dragonfly

Flapping wings (to release energy)

- **Stand tall**, feet apart and comfy.
- **Stretch your arms out wide** like dragonfly wings.
- **Take a big breath** in through your nose.
- **Flap your wings!** Breathe out through your mouth as you flap your arms up and down.
- **Do it a few times** to feel that energy fly away!



Add a gentle buzz if you like.

Gliding (to find calm)

- Keep your arms out wide, but **still and soft**, like you're gliding.
- **Breathe in slowly** through your nose.
- **Breathe out gently** through your mouth.
- **Repeat a few times**, imagining a dragonfly floating peacefully.

Breathing mindfully is one of the fastest ways to access calm.



6 Misson Bird Spotter

The waterways around the Port act as a vital "rest stop" for migratory birds traveling along the Mersey Estuary.

What to look for: Keep your eyes peeled for **Grey Herons** stalking the canal banks and **Shelducks** out on the marshes.

Spotting Tips:

 Activity peaks during **Autumn and Winter**.

This is when thousands of wading birds and "celebrity" ducks, like Teal and Pintails, arrive from the north to use the Mersey's nutrient-rich mudflats as their winter canteen.



7 Code Breaker

Alright, super-sleuths, it's time to team up and solve these puzzles! Unscramble the letters to reveal the hidden words.

What is the name of the bridge you are standing on?

• **PRIEKINGCS ERIDBG** •

Grid of 14 empty boxes for the bridge name puzzle.

Otters can live in canals, what type of animal are they?

• **LMAAMM** • (Hint: They are warm blooded)

Grid of 6 empty boxes for the otter puzzle.

Joy jumble! Now unscramble the letters that appear in the blue boxes above.

Grid of 10 empty boxes for the joy jumble puzzle.



What was your tiny moment of joy today? Scan the QR code to share it!



8 Waggle Dance

Bees dance in a figure of eight and buzz to tell other bees the direction and distance to food, this is the waggle dance. The longer they waggle, the further away the food is.



Do the waggle dance:

1. Spot a flower or leaf you like.
2. Face towards the flower (bee food).
3. Waggle your hips and move in a figure of eight.
4. Buzz as you waggle!

Can someone else follow your waggle dance to find your "flower?" Then, it's their turn to be the **Waggle Dancer**.

Dancing is a great way to move all parts of your body, it also releases hormones that make us feel happy!