

# The Big Green Draw: A Climate of Change

KS2 children aged 7-11 years (can be adapted for KS1 children aged 5-7 years)

Learning Objectives	Resources
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>to create sketch books to record their observations and use them to review and revisit ideas</li> <li>to improve their mastery of art and design techniques, including drawing, painting and sculpture with a range of materials [for example, pencil, charcoal, paint, clay]</li> <li>to research great artists, architects and designers in history</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Build a Canal</a></li> <li><a href="#">Waterways Today</a></li> <li><a href="#">L.S Lowry</a></li> <li><a href="#">Andy Goldsworthy</a></li> <li><a href="#">Visit your local canal</a></li> </ul>
Success Criteria	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All children will produce a sketchbook of drawings of the canal today and in the future</li> <li>Some children will incorporate the style of a famous artist into their sketch</li> </ul>	
Teaching/Parent input	
<p>The Big Draw is a month long global celebration of drawing as a tool for learning, expression and invention. The theme for The Big Green Draw is A Climate of Change focusing on the relationship between people and our living environments and ecosystems; highlighting how we live today and the ways in which we do and do not harmonise with nature. These activities encourage children to think about their local canal, how it has changed over time and how it might look in the future with the effects of climate change. We want children to draw, explore and get out and about as they imagine a canal for the future. We'd love to see your sketches and ideas, share them with us on the Explorers <a href="#">Facebook</a> and <a href="#">Twitter</a> pages with #BigGreenDraw and #ClimateofChange</p>	
Activities	
<p><b>Play:</b> the Build a Canal game on the Explorers website to learn how and why canals were built over 200 years ago.</p> <p><b>Read:</b> the selected chapters in the Waterways Today topic pack to learn how we use and care for canals today and why they are important. The chapters include, activities, healthy living, climate change, places of interest and maintenance.</p> <p><b>Watch:</b> the short films about L.S Lowry and Andy Goldsworthy. Study their work using the links below, can children incorporate the style of these artists (or an artist they have studied) into their work?</p> <p><b>Do:</b> visit your local canal, take photos of interesting things that you see. Using a sketch book and draw the canal today. Think about how the canal might look in 200 years. How will it change? Will climate change affect it? Can the canal help to fight climate change? If you're unable to visit your local canal be inspired with a <a href="#">virtual tour</a> of our waterways from the sky.</p> <p><b>Create:</b> sketch a canal of the future. Can children use the style of a famous artist to create their sketch? What will the canal be like in 200 years? Will it still be used for leisure, transport? Will more people be living on the water as demand for city dwellings increases?</p>	

## Suggestions

Use the chapters in Waterways Today to start discussions on climate change and sustainability

**Sustainable transport** – canals were built as transport routes. Today towpaths are used for sustainable travel through walking and cycling, reducing air pollution and carbon emissions. 10 of our waterways are suitable for carrying freight (cargo). If more freight is transported this way it will reduce the number of lorries on the road and carbon emissions.

**Renewable energy** – canals have the potential to generate electricity through hydro-electric power schemes built on weirs.

**Biodiversity** - Canals provide a corridor for nature across the country. They connect towns and countryside with important habitats that are home to hundreds of plants and animals including protected species like water voles and great crested newts.

Set up an art gallery in school or at home to display sketches. Film children with their artwork describing their vision for the future canal.

## Plenary

### Give me five

Get children to draw around one hand. Then, they should label each finger with something they've gained from this project.

**Thumb:** What have you learned by taking part in this project?

**Index finger:** What skills have you used?

**Middle:** What did you find hard?

**Ring:** What have you improved on?

**Pinkie:** What do you need to remember for next time?

## Key Words

**Key Stage 1:** draw, sketch, artist, canal

**Key Stage 2:** climate change, sustainability, renewable energy

## Useful Websites/External Resources

The Big Draw <https://thebigdraw.org/the-big-green-draw-a-climate-of-change-2020>

Canal and Factories by L.S Lowry

<https://www.nationalgalleries.org/art-and-artists/667/canal-and-factories>

The work of L.S Lowry <https://thelowry.com/about-us/ls-lowry/his-work/>

The work of Andy Goldsworthy

<https://tinyurl.com/ycho67y8>

## Get Outside Ideas

Use your outside space at school or home and compare to your local canal. Sketch interesting features, are there any similarities? What will the outside space at your school or home be like in 200 years?