

Example Unit of Work KS2 Canals & Rivers

The Day Aliens came to the Tame Valley Canal

English – Storytelling – Pupils listen to and read fiction and explore canal vocabulary

Learning Objective	Resources
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To discover how our canals and rivers are used today and how they have changed To develop pupils' confidence and competence in spoken language and listening skills To develop pupils' reading, writing and evaluation skills in fiction and non-fiction To develop pupils' understanding that the need for raw materials led to the building of canals (key physical and human geographical features), and how they have changed over time 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Day Aliens came to the Tame Valley Canal book and film Journey Stick notes Then & Now Picture Show BCN Fact File or your local Fact File Build a Canal Learning Bundle Canal & River Trust GIS mapping Schools Plastics Challenge Water Safety Learning Bundle
Suggested Activities	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Watch The Day Aliens came to the Tame Valley Canal Download the book, handling items descriptions and download images or find objects to use when reading the book – pupils can use the objects to understand more about the canal environment during the storytelling session. Use a Journey Stick to get active and investigate your local canal, using all your senses to make discoveries and descriptive words to explain what they are. Before and After Use the Build a Canal Game to understand the role canals have played in changing our landscape. Then & Now Canal Picture Show: Look at before and after photographs to compare and contrast canalside views to understand the impact of waterways on your local area. Pupils can then investigate mapping of waterways and how symbols help to describe the environment by using the Canal & River Trust GIS based map, and pupils building their own simple map through Build a Trail. Make and write: Pupils use their lunchbox litter to 'make your own alien'. Bring in 5 items to make the litter-clearing aliens who help to tidy up, or a wild animal who lives at the canal. Pupils use empathy skills to write a story to be read out loud, as if they were an alien or wild animal. Pupils develop some persuasive writing, to explain why people shouldn't dump rubbish. (See Plastics Challenge Protest Poster activity). 	
KS2 National Curriculum Links	
<p>English:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pupils listen to, read & discuss fiction and non-fiction Pupils practice explaining their understanding of books and other reading, and prepare their ideas before they write Pupils develop confidence and competence in spoken language and listening skills Pupils write fiction and non-fiction, planning, drafting, evaluating and editing their work 	<p>Geography:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pupils interpret a range of sources of geographical information – maps and photographs Pupils use digital mapping (GIS) and consider how scale was and is recorded Pupils use geographical canal vocabulary to describe local features about place