

Life on the canal with links to Droitwich :Orange Class Knowledge Organiser

Key learning for this topic:

- Our world is made up of physical and human features.
- Rivers are physical (natural) and canals are human (man-made) features.
- Canals were built to allow the transport of goods across UK via boats.
- Canals can be found all over the UK. They flow through urban and rural areas.



Eight Point Compass:

N/E = Northeast

S/E = Southeast

S/W = Southwest

S/E = Southeast

The Worcester & Birmingham Canal takes you from the vibrant centre of Birmingham, through the green hills of Worcestershire, to the cathedral city of Worcester.

Key Vocabulary for this topic:

canal: A waterway built by humans.

lock: A device that is used for moving a boat from one water level to another. This is done by raising or lowering the water level.

towpath: A road or path that is on the bank of the river or canal. This path allows you to "tow" a boat.

Navigation: Finding a way from one place to another.

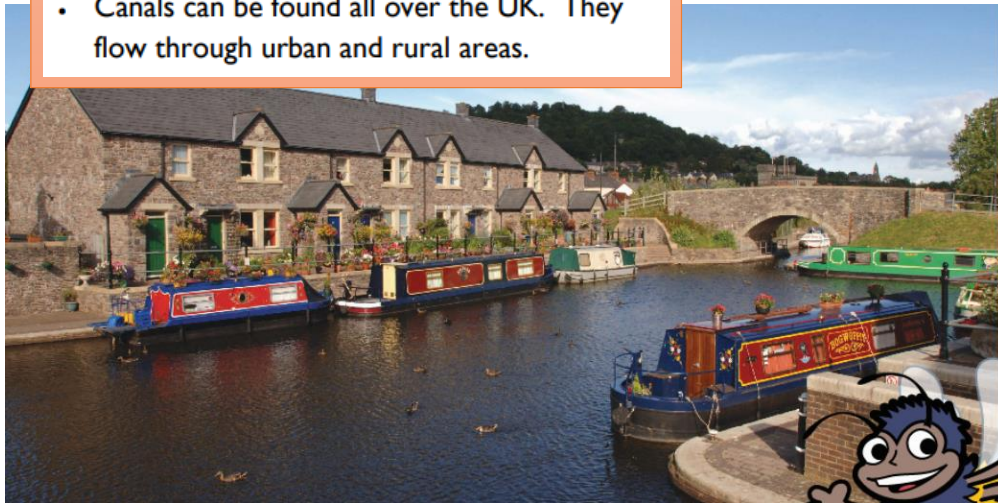
Barge: A long narrow boat with a flat bottom, mainly used on canals.

rural: Things that are often seen in the countryside.

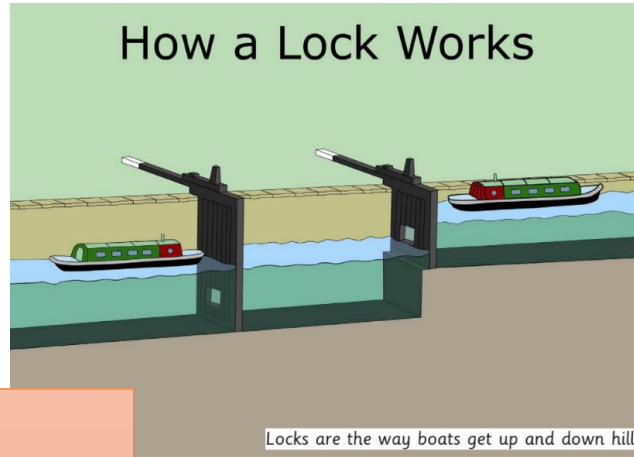
urban: Things that are often seen in the city.

human features: Things in our surroundings built by humans, such as houses, roads, canals and railways.

physical features: Earth's natural features, such as mountains, rivers, deserts and oceans.



Always remember to stay **SAFE** near water – Stay **Away From the Edge**



Locks are the way boats get up and down hill.

Key Questions for this topic:

1. What is a canal?
2. Who built the canals?
3. How were the canals used?
4. How can we stay safe around water?
5. What was Life on the boats/canals like?
6. How can you use the local canal?
7. What historical features can you spot along the towpath?
8. Who looks after the canals?
9. Why do we need locks?

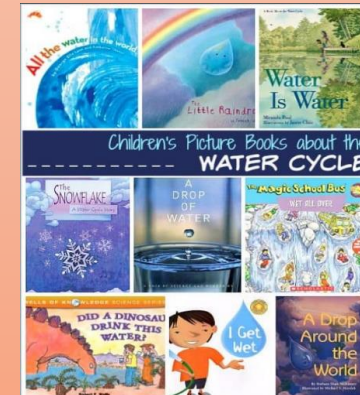
Great websites to visit to find out lots more about our water ways are:

[Canal & River Trust Education - free primary school trips to your local waterway. | Canal & River Trust \(canalrivertrust.org.uk\)](http://canalrivertrust.org.uk)

[Water safety for kids | Canal & River Trust \(canalrivertrust.org.uk\)](http://canalrivertrust.org.uk)



Texts for this topic



Science/Physical/Mental Well-being

Enjoy a family walk along the canal/river. What wildlife can you see? Notice any safety signs. Investigate the boats and locks and long the canal. Take photos/draw/write about your experience. How does it make you feel when you experience life along a canal?



Art/Creative

Draw or paint a picture of a canal boat.
Investigate the traditional canal boat art work.
Build a canal and a lock using lego, junk or other building materials of your choice.
Challenge:
Can you make a lock and explain how it works?



You may wish to watch this clip to make a canal model as it may have been like in the past.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hYmEoxnJgw8&t=7s>

Home Learning Tasks

Art/English/Computing

Design a poster that explains how to stay safe near water. Make sure your poster is simple and clear. You may wish to use the computer to design your poster.

History/Computing

Who were The Duke of Bridgewater, Josiah Wedgwood, James Brindley, Thomas Brindley and John Corbett?

Choose one (or more) and write about who they were & what part of the history of canals they played. You may want to do this as a fact file or a powerpoint



Places to visit

Ironbridge- this is home to the first iron bridge that was erected over the River Severn in 1779. What else can you find out?

Droitwich Spa- visit the towns museum to find out about how the canals were part of the production of salt and the development of the town. Have a walk in the town to find the different salt monuments to remember the salt workers.

The Hive/Droitwich Library - what can you find out about the canals and the history of Droitwich using the books in the library.

