

Maps and Trails

Canals were built to transport goods round the country. In the past rivers were used to carry goods too. People still use the canals and rivers to travel around by boat and use towpaths to walk and cycle.



Try this activity if you are working for any of the following badges: Navigator; Finding Your Way; Out and About; Environmentalist.

Build A Journey Stick

All good Cub Scouts and Brownies can read maps. But what about making a secret map of a towpath or riverbank with details that only you have noticed?

picnic bench

tall reeds

railway track

big horse

green door



You will need

- a piece of card measuring about 30 cms long x 6 cms wide
- double-sided sticky tape
- a pen

To make

- 1 Cut a length of double-sided sticky tape the same length as the card. Fasten down the middle of the card.
- 2 Walk along the towpath or riverbank and collect items that will remind you which way you went and what you saw e.g. a leaf from a large tree you passed.
- 3 Stick them on to the card.
- 4 On the edges of the card write descriptions such as Bridge No.3, tall reeds, pot holes, etc.



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Memory Map Game

Here's a game to test the memory skills of your friends. If you are used to walking you will remember different things to friends who cycle or are taken by car.

You will need

- a street map of your town
- a pencil, paper and scissors.



To make

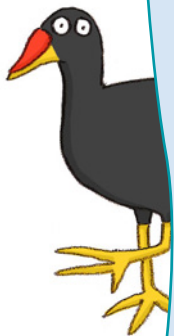
- 1 Mark out a circle in one area.
- 2 Cut out a circle of blank paper to cover that area.
- 3 Photocopy enough copies of the map with the blanked out area for your friends.
- 4 Ask everybody to fill in the blank area from memory.
- 5 Now compare the results. What you remember about the missing details show what's important to you.



Want to know more?

Click on canalrivertrust.org.uk/explorers to:

- Organise a 30 minute walk along your local canal towpath. Look out for all the Canal & River Trust signs you see.
- Track down some great activity trails near you.
- Build your own trail for you and your friends using the interactive.
- Check out Build a Lock and see how a lock works.



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