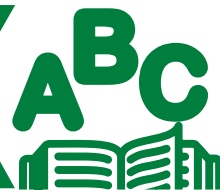


# River Sketch 'N' Speak Activity Sheet



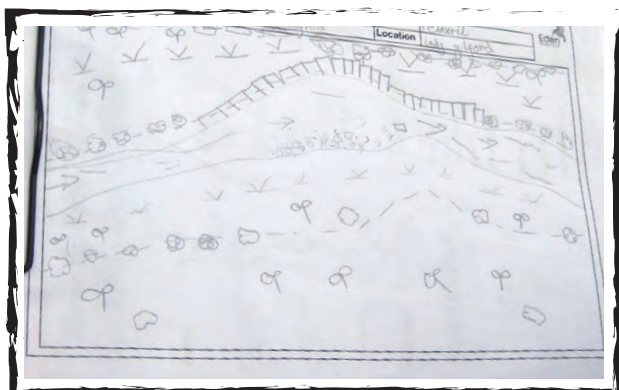
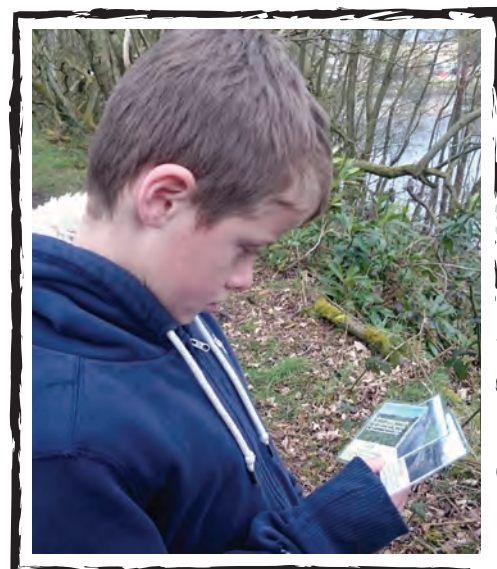
Test your map drawing skills & names of river features down by the river

- a set of River Speak word cards
- a River Speak Key and a River Sketch Map
- a pencil and a rubber
- River Speak Recording Sheet (optional)

**1** Find a good spot beside the river. Have a look around you.

- What features can you see in the river and along both sides of the river bank?
- What can you see looking up the river, or looking down the river?

**2** Look at the selection of **Word Cards** and see if you can name any of the features you have spotted along the river bank, on your cards. When you spot a feature that matches one of your word cards, try and find the symbol for it on your **River Speak Key**.



**3** Now draw your river channel on your **River Sketch Map** (see left). Look at the shape of your river and make sure you follow the shape of the river banks.

**4** Next, add your features, one at a time, using the correct symbol for each feature. Keep checking the river to make sure you place them in the correct position on your map.

**5** Once you've added all your features, your map is complete. Hold it up to the river to see if you've got all your features in the right place. If not, then rub them out and try again. Why not find another spot along the river to draw another map?



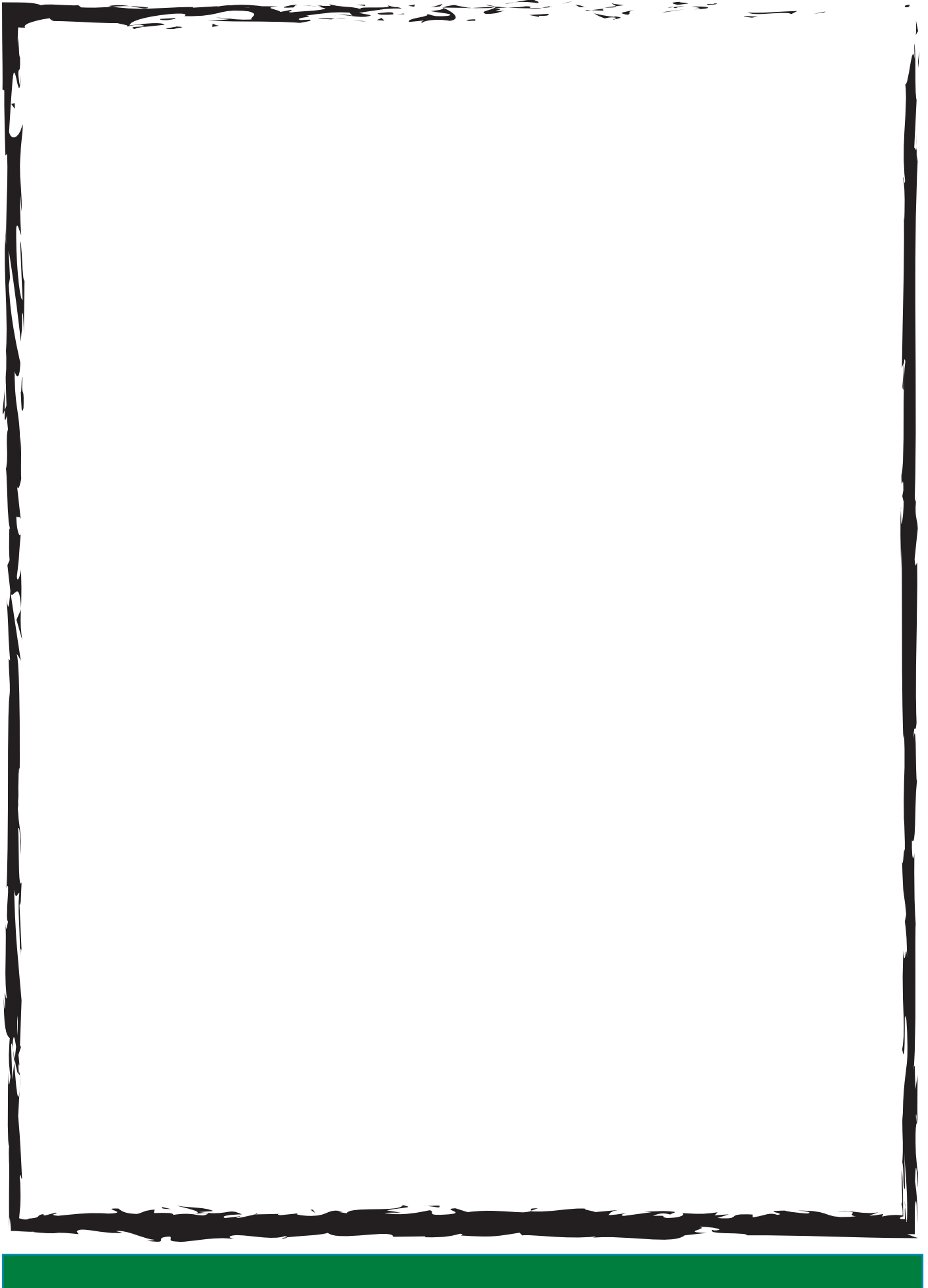
## Note for Parents:

If you are at the river with friends then why not each pick a different spot and re-group once you've completed your maps. Compare your maps, taking turns to say which features you've each spotted and where. If you have time, visit each spot to see the different features for real!

## Take it further

Why not draw your river feature symbols on your **River Speak Recording Sheet**. Now write the word next to your symbol drawing and then think of a sentence that includes your river word. Repeat this for each of your river features.

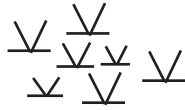
# River Sketch Map



# River Speak Key

## Types of Vegetation

Grass



Plants



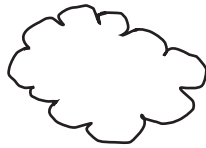
Coniferous Trees



Deciduous Trees



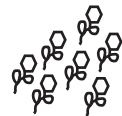
Woodland



Hedgerow



River Weed



## Types of Deposition

Boulders



Mud



Cobbles



Sand



Gravel



Plants & Gravel



## Man-made Features

Fence



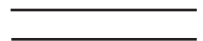
Gate



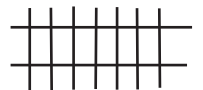
Man-made Wall



Path or Road



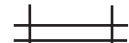
Railway Line



Buildings



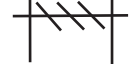
Road Bridge



Foot Bridge



Weir



## Natural Features

Bottom of River Bank



Top of River Bank



Erosion



Riffle



Glide



Pool



Waterfall



Exposed Rocks



Direction of Flow



# River Speak Recording Sheet

Draw your river  
feature

Write the name of your  
river feature

Create a sentence which  
includes your river feature

Example:



Waterfall

The spray from the waterfall  
created a rainbow of colours.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_






# River Speak Word Cards



## Erosion

The process by which water wears away rock and soil along the river bank and bed.



## Deposition

When the water loses energy and drops material on the river bed.



## Riffle

A rocky or shallow part of a river or stream where the water flows brokenly.



## Glide

A calm stretch of shallow, smooth-flowing water.



## Pool

A body of deep, still water in a river.



## Waterfall

Water in a river dropping from a higher to a lower point - often from a great height.



# River Speak Word Cards

© Rob Coleman



## Weir

A low dam built across a river to raise the level of water upstream or regulate its flow.



## Plants

Great for wildlife and the roots help to bind the soil together and reduce erosion.



## Exposed Rocks

More commonly found in the upper course of the river where the water is shallow and the rocks are large.



## Man-made Wall

Built to protect the river bank from erosion, particularly in times of flood.



## Deciduous Trees

Trees that drop their leaves in autumn leaving the tree bare in winter.



## Coniferous Trees

Trees that produce cones and needle-like leaves and don't drop their leaves in the autumn.



# River Speak Word Cards

© Margaret Holland



## Grass

Tall grass has long roots which help to bind the soil together and reduce bank erosion.



## Woodland

Tree roots help to bind the soil, reduce bank erosion, and provide shade to keep the river water cool.



## Hedgerow

Often a mixture of shrubs and small trees. Great for wildlife. Soaks up water helping to reduce flooding.



## Boulders

A large rock with a size greater than 25cm in diameter.



## Cobbles

A small, round stone, between 6 and 25cm in diameter.



## Gravel

Small pieces of rounded stone usually no larger than a coin.



# River Speak Word Cards



© Rob Coleman

## Mud

Soft, wet earth. Great for spotting animal footprints.



## Sand

Fine rock particles created by the erosion of rock by the river. Sand bars are a feature of the lower course.



## Fence

It could be made of wood, wire, metal or plastic.



## Gate

It could be five bar, kissing, swinging or field gates and come in a variety of sizes and materials.



© Margaret Holland

## Path or Road

Used by pedestrians, vehicles or both. It could be tarmac, gravel, concrete or bare earth.



## Railway Line

Often running alongside rivers in the bottom of valleys. Trains cross rivers over bridges called viaducts.



# River Speak Word Cards



## Road Bridge

It could be wide or narrow, made of stone, concrete or metal, have arches or be single span.



## Foot Bridge

Used only by pedestrians and can be made out of wood, metal, stone or concrete.



## Bottom of the River Bank

The point at which the water meets the land on a steep river bank.



## Top of the River Bank

The point at which the land flattens out on steep river banks.



## Building

It could be a house, watermill, factory or castle.



## River Weed

Water Crowfoot is the most common, great for wildlife and puts oxygen into the water.

© John Stock

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