

BEATRICE

PROJECT IDEAS TO COMPLETE DURING, OR AFTER, A BEATRICE TRIP



**Beatrice was given the Queen's Award
for Voluntary Service in 2019**

We, at the Beatrice Charity, know that the best teaching materials are produced by teachers for their own children. **There is a useful website** which includes activity ideas and an area for pupils, including *Hook a Duck*, *Games Slider*, *Build a Canal* and *Water Safety*: www.canalrivertrust.org.uk/explorers

In addition, we hope that the following ideas might prove useful in tailoring projects specifically for particular groups of children.

- Draw a picture of Beatrice.
- If you owned a narrow boat draw a picture of what you would like it to look like – and what would you call it?
- Fill a page with drawings of the flowers that you see growing on the banks of the canal. Ask your teacher for the names of the flowers that you can see.
- Ferns have lived on the Earth for about 34 million years. Can you see any ferns? Draw a picture of them.
- Dragonflies live near the water .They live as nymphs for nearly five years and when they become a dragon fly they live for just a few days. They have two sets of wings and long bodies. Draw a dragonfly and colour it in.
- Frogs live near the water and they lay their eggs in the water. The frogs have long legs for jumping. Draw a picture of a frog. Find out what the eggs are called.
- Moths and butterflies live in the area around the canal. Can you see any butterflies? Moths fly at night and will rest with its wings spread out flat. A butterfly flies during the day and rests at night. Draw a moth or a butterfly and colour them in.
- Fill a page with different coloured butterflies and show your friends,
- There are lots of birds that are flying around the canal. Write a list or draw pictures of the birds that you can see. Find out what they are called.

- Ducks are birds and they swim in the canal. How many ducks can you count during your trip on the Beatrice? Draw some of the ducks.
- Look at the trees that you can see growing on the side of the canal. Draw your favourite tree and find out what it is called.
- When you get back to school draw the tree again showing its roots. Find out why trees need roots.
- What shape are the leaves on your favourite tree? Draw a leaf.
- Fill a page with different patterns that you can see from Beatrice.
- How many farm animals can you see when you are on Beatrice? Make a list of the different animals.
- Count how many locks Beatrice goes through on your trip. Draw a picture of a lock.
- Count how many bridges the boat goes under, Look at the different shapes of the bridges and draw one of them.
- Look for the numbers on the bridges and write them down.
- Draw a map of the route the Beatrice travels on the canal. Include the bridges and the locks.

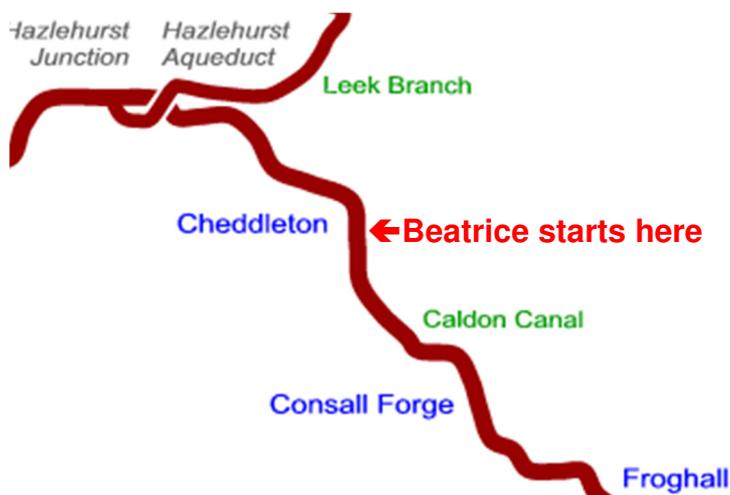
A few ideas for PMLD pupils

- Take outlines of a narrow boat on card and assist pupils to stick sensory windows on the cabin and deck.
- Have a tub of blue water for the pupils to explore when going through a lock.
- Take sensory boxes filled with leaves and twigs for the pupils to explore.
- Have lights in a box and fill it with feathers for the pupils to explore.
- Take outlines of some of the birds that can be seen from Beatrice and stick feathers and eyes on them.

ROUTES USED BY THE BEATRICE

starting from the Cheddleton Flint Mill.

Schools usually go to the Aqueduct and often further along the Leek branch.



WHAT IS BEATRICE?

WHAT IS THE CALDON CANAL?

Beatrice is a narrow boat. It sails on the Caldon Canal.

A canal is like a river but it is made by digging out a channel for boats to sail along. Rivers flow down a hill but canals are flat, with locks to help boats go up and down – a bit like stairs.

Canals were made for moving goods about the country but now we use trains and vans and lorries. Today canals are used for people to have fun. We go on Beatrice to have a nice day.

Beatrice has seats for 12 people, with a deck at the front for nice weather. Most narrow boats have beds but the Beatrice only goes out in the day.

The Caldon Canal was built over 200 years ago. It started to be used in 1779. There were a lot of factories along the canal. There were mines and quarries for digging out of the ground – limestone, copper, lead, iron and coal - which was all moved in boats on the canal.

Beatrice starts from the Cheddleton Flint Mill where two huge wheels are driven by water to turn big stones to grind flint. Flint is a kind of rock and was ground up to be used in making pottery. The Mill stopped working in 1960 but is now open to visitors. You can see the crane which was used to load and unload the boats. Also along the canal was a factory for making paper and another for making bricks. You may see the old railway that ran next to the canal.

The canal slowly stopped being used – it was replaced by train and by road. It closed about 70 years ago and filled up with mud. Most of the factories have now gone. It used to be very noisy but now it is peaceful.

In 1974 the canal mud was taken away and the locks were made to work again. Many boats are now seen on the Caldon Canal for people who enjoy boating. We hope that you enjoy it as well.