



Connections

A learning experience
in Deptford Creek



Suggestions for homework or classwork activities further exploring the connections between the curriculum and the local area and natural environment

English

The Lost Words is a book of poetry by Robert McFarlane and Jackie Morris. It uses a form of poetry known as acrostic. You can read about the book and see an example of the poetry [here](#). Write a poem in the acrostic style, using a word linked to Deptford Creek as your inspiration. Think about the Creek itself and the history, geography and ecology of the area.

English


Write a persuasive letter to your local MP explaining why Deptford Creek is a place worth protecting. You can include a personal anecdote about your visit to Deptford Creek to strengthen your argument.

History

Write a timeline of the environmental health of the River Thames. You can find lots of interesting information [here](#).

History

Explain how the arrival of the London & Greenwich Railway changed Deptford and south east London forever





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Art

Take a look at art created by [James Brunt](#). Exploring the colours found in nature at this time of year, use natural materials to create your own artwork. Experiment with pattern and shapes like the artist above. Take a picture of your finished work and draw a sketch. Remember to leave the natural materials outdoors so that the artwork can continue to be part of nature.

Art

Protecting the environment requires activism. Many activist movements include artists, who help to communicate their messages. Some artists even identify as 'artists'. Research activism, consider how you could communicate an environmental message through art. Create a sketch of an idea for a piece of activism. You can find out about activism and see examples [here](#).

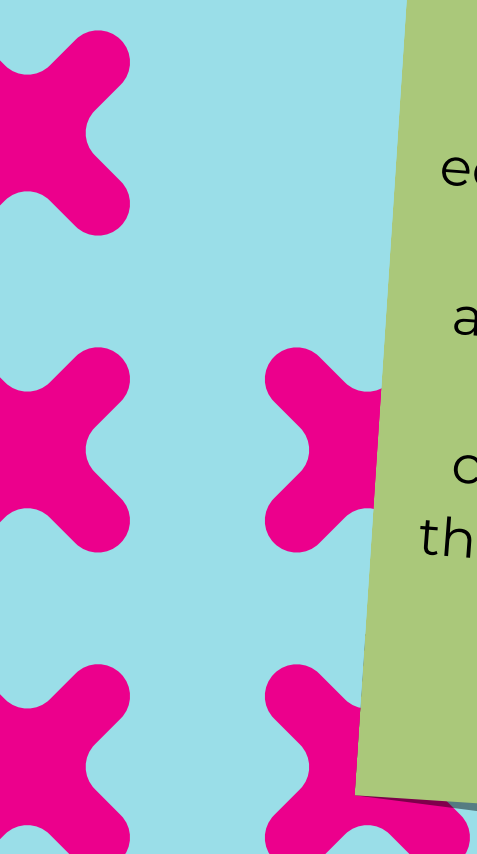
Geography

Construct a model or create a diagram of Deptford Creek using online maps – highlight natural features such as the river bed and meanders, and also highlight and explain human features such as walls and bridges

Geography

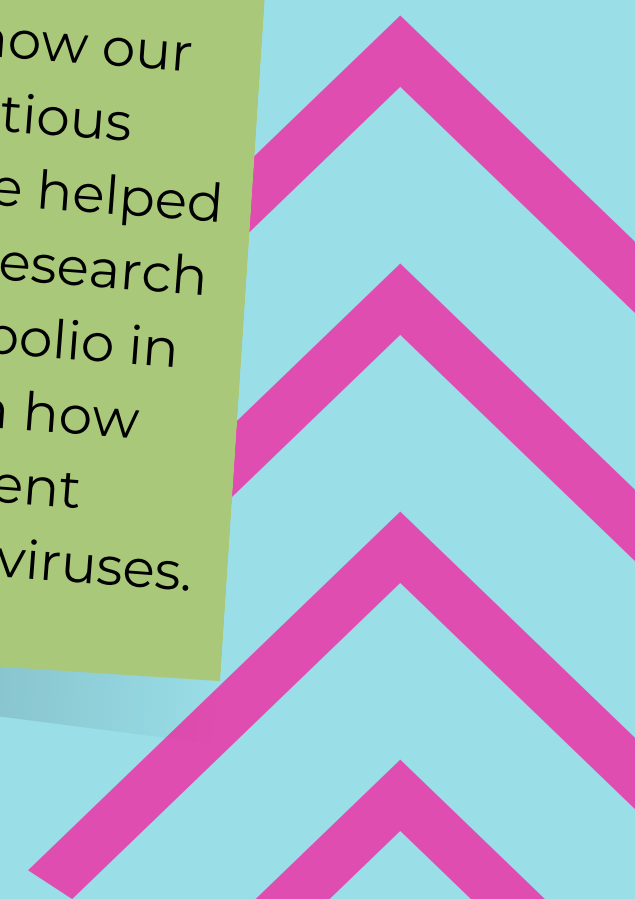
Name some engineering strategies that have been used to reduce the flood risk on Deptford Creek, describe how they work and compare advantages and disadvantages of 2 of the strategies.

Biology



Research the life cycle of the critically endangered European eel. Create an informational poster describing the life cycle – think about the different ways you can represent the information e.g. cycle, timeline, map etc. Include threats to their survival, indicating the part of the life cycle each threat relates to.

Biology



Research the outbreaks of cholera in Victorian London. Explain how the disease spread and how our understanding of infectious diseases increased with the help of John Snow's research. Research the recent occurrence of polio in the river Thames. Explain how vaccines can help prevent infection from water-borne viruses.



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Physics

Deptford Power Station was the first large scale electrical generation station in the world, generation electricity at 10,000V. It was the inspiration for today's national grid. Using a diagram, explain how the national grid works, including descriptions of how energy losses are minimised.

Chemistry



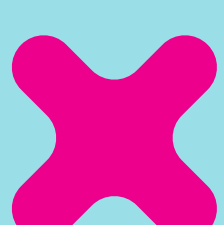
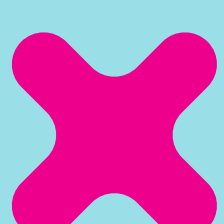




Nowadays, our waste water is treated and the clean water is returned to our waterways. The sewage pumping station on the banks of Deptford Creek sends sewage to Crossness Sewage Treatment Works. Explain how potable water is obtained from freshwater in the river Thames.

D&T

There are 3 different types of bridges across the river near Creekside Discovery Centre. Choose 2 and compare the bridge styles, explaining why each style was chosen. You may want to include a sketch of each bridge to support your explanation.

PSHE

Careers - To help protect the planet all jobs must protect the environment. Watch this video about an environmental engineer. Why is it important for engineers to protect the environment? Would you like to do this job? What other jobs can help protect the environment?









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Teacher links

- The Lost Words, including Otter poem - <https://www.jackiemorris.co.uk/book/the-lost-words/>
 - History of pollution in the river Thames - https://www.rmg.co.uk/stories/topics/pollution-river-thames-history_
 - How railways changed Britain - <https://www.christianwolmar.co.uk/2007/10/how-railways-changed-britain/>
 - James Brunt land art examples - <https://www.jamesbruntartist.co.uk/united-by-land/>
 - Artivism - <https://www.artandobject.com/articles/artivism-making-difference-through-art>
 - Cholera in Victorian London - <https://www.sciencemuseum.org.uk/objects-and-stories/medicine/cholera-victorian-london>
 - A day in the life of an environmental engineer - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gsLZhFUfBP4>
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