



Parent/Guardian Notes: Week 3

River Pollution

Foundation Phase, Lower KS2

5-9 years



What you need to know:

This week's session looks at how rivers get polluted and what we can all do to help prevent this happening. It also introduces the concept of filtration as a way of cleaning water. It builds on last week's session, providing a further opportunity to encourage scientific thinking. Designing their experiment, predicting what might happen, then seeing if the predictions came true. Following the experiment we look at the fact that salmon and stonefly nymphs can only live in clean water, so if we see them they indicate or tell us the water in the river is clean. Hence they are called **indicator species**.

Key words: pollution, filtration, indicator species

All you need to do:

- Watch the video clip
- Read through the activity sheet with children. Recap on the things we can do to help keep rivers clean, look at the video.
- Discuss how the fish must feel when their river gets polluted decide which poster they want to design. Discuss whether they are going to write a poem or design a poster and its aim.
- Decide whether or not to do the filtration experiment. Recap by watching that part of the video and look at the suggestions on the activity sheet. You can try all kinds of filters.
- **You don't need to print the activity sheet.**

Curriculum Links: Wales

This is a **STEM/STEAM** activity

Science and Technology: Being curious and searching for answers helps further our understanding of the natural world and helps society to progress

Humanities: Our natural world is diverse and dynamic, influenced by physical processes and human actions

Languages, Literacy and Communication: use of specialised words/vocabulary, thinking and describing out loud, learners need something to speak and write about incorporating the outdoor environment.

Wider skills: critical thinking and problem solving, planning and organising, creativity and innovation

