

Berkshire Beavers Waterways Challenge



Beavers who complete the Waterways Challenge are eligible to receive and wear this occasional badge (available from the County Office)

Inspired by our various waterways across Berkshire, some gifting their names to our Districts, all Beavers, Colonies and Districts are invited to participate in our Berkshire Beavers Waterways Challenge.

- All Beavers who complete all three challenges listed below are eligible to receive their Berkshire Beavers Waterway Challenge badge and certificate – a template will be shared with the leader for local completion.
- Programme ideas and supporting resources are signposted below, including many potential badge links (Leaders may flex and summate the activities so long as the total duration is achieved).
- A selection of photographs and a listing of Colonies completing the award will be included on the County website.

The badge can also be found and tracked on OSM – search for 'Berkshire Beavers Waterways Challenge'

Waterways Observation	Water Recreation	Water Safety														
<input type="checkbox"/> Participate in one or more practical activities adding up to at least 2 hours , observing our inland waterways and finding out about some of the animals that live there	<input type="checkbox"/> Participate in one or more activities adding up to at least 1 hour on or near the waterways	<input type="checkbox"/> Complete water safety training of at least 3/4 hour , including The Water Safety Code														
Beavers could: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Participate in pond-dipping, identifying and drawing some of the plants and animals they find. - Explore a watery nature reserve, country park or along a waterway, recording the animal and plant wildlife they spot (like a scavenger hunt). - Develop a wild Beavers fact-file. A range of useful resources are available online including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Beaver facts from the Woodland Trust o Beaver Trust Lodge collates various activities, stories etc. o American Beaver video from National Geographic for Kids 	Beavers can achieve this aspect of the challenge by participating in various activities including: <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td>Canoeing</td> <td>Paddle boarding</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Holding a Pooh sticks tournament</td> <td>Making and floating rafts from natural materials</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dragon boating</td> <td>Katakanoing</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Raft building</td> <td>Crabbing</td> </tr> </table> <p>Leaders must ensure they have any necessary permission, risk assessments, and activity leaders or Scout permits in place for whichever activities are chosen.</p> <p>Contact your local Sea Scout Group or the county water permit holders to see if they could lead a Beaver colony session, or one of the commercial or charity centres. For example:</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td>Wokingham Waterside Centre</td> <td>Adventure Dolphin (Pangbourne)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dinton Pastures Activity Centre</td> <td>Burghfield Sailing Club</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Longridge Activity Centre (Marlow)</td> <td>Other suitable centres</td> </tr> </table>	Canoeing	Paddle boarding	Holding a Pooh sticks tournament	Making and floating rafts from natural materials	Dragon boating	Katakanoing	Raft building	Crabbing	Wokingham Waterside Centre	Adventure Dolphin (Pangbourne)	Dinton Pastures Activity Centre	Burghfield Sailing Club	Longridge Activity Centre (Marlow)	Other suitable centres	Did you know..... Over 700 people drown in the UK and Ireland every year with many more suffering injury, some life-changing, through non-fatal experiences – more than from domestic fires or cycling accidents (Ref: www.rlss.org.uk). <p>The Fire and Rescue Service support water safety for our inland waterways – contact your local service to see how they can support a Beaver colony session.</p> <p>A great range of downloadable resources and interactive games are available to help the Beavers learn how to stay safe near our inland waterways including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The RNLI Lower Primary educational resources - through video and discussion, Beavers can learn how to plan for a trip near water, what to take and what to do, and how to identify possible dangers by rivers and lakes as well as the sea. - The Water Safety Explorers learning bundle published by the Canal & River Trust – including a video, spot the danger and other activities, safety challenge (5 games), booklets & posters – includes guidance notes for leaders.
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Potential Badge Links: Explore , My World Challenge	Potential Badge Links: Nautical Skills , Paddle Sports , Time on the Water , My Outdoors Challenge	Potential Badge Links: Safety , Personal Challenge														