Challenge Two

Waterways Ireland
Uiscebhealaí Éireann Watterweys Airlann

Nature Navvies Programme



www.learning.waterwaysireland.org

Nature Navvies Challenge Two:
Drama

Warm up

Put chairs into a circle. Choose a child to stand in the middle. Give the children a Waterways name from a selection of 5: Grand Canal, Royal Canal, Lower Lough Erne, Barrow Navigation, River Shannon. When their Waterway is called by the child in the middle, those children with that name must change seats very fast as the caller tries to get a seat. The game continues on as such. Call "Waterways" for all children to switch.

Introduction

The children are introduced to story of Noel Spain (Early Memories of the Royal Canal).

Noel recalls the revival of the Royal Canal during World War 2 or 'The Emergency' when horse drawn barges were used to transport goods from the country into and out of Dublin. The old canal boats had big long ropes attached from the boats to the horses.

The children will listen to an audio clip of Noel recalling a memory from when he was eight or nine years old. https://www.waterwaysireland.org/early-memories-of-the-royal-canal

Main Body

Ask the children to close their eyes listen to the Noel's story and visualise the scene. Ask them to imagine the sounds and the smells.

Listen to it a second time. The children will give details as to what they saw, smelt and heard.

Now divide the class into groups of five or six. Improvise and recreate the scene using classroom items with their group. Allow 15 mins to prepare.

The children will then in turn perform their recreated scene. They will look and respond to each group's performance.

Conclusion

The children will return to the circle of chairs. Ask the children what they learned from listening to Noel's story. Pick one child to whisper a fact they learned from the lesson to the teacher. Then pass on the fact via whispering from one child to the next. The last child will stand up and say what they heard. The first child will tell them if they are correct.



