

River Great Ouse Valley: learning task: English Lower Key stage 2

Persuasive writing: persuade that action is needed to clean the River Great Ouse. *Take care not to alarm learners.*

Curriculum link: Notes and guidance (non-statutory) Pupils should continue to have opportunities to write for a range of real purposes and audiences as part of their work across the curriculum. These purposes and audiences should underpin the decisions about the form the writing should take

1. Build learners' knowledge of the issue

Pre-teach key vocabulary and language structures

e-coli
polluted/pollution
sewage
citizen scientist
chemicals

Watch the Video

<https://www.itv.com/watch/news/three-quarters-of-uk-rivers-are-in-poor-ecological-health-according-to-tests/3n8xqwt>

(begins with an advert)

**Share information about our river (this can be done as a listening task, a reading task, a jig-saw learning task with oral reporting back).
Use whiteboard visuals and photos where possible.**

The River Great Ouse is the fifth longest river in Britain.

It runs through Bedford and lots of villages in Bedfordshire.

People use it for fishing.

Lots of people row boats on the river. Some people sail boats on the river. People also canoe, kayak and paddleboard on the river. People like to swim in it too.

People like to walk by the river.

Many animals and plants live in or near the river and need good, clean water to live healthy lives.

The Problem- citizen scientists have found out these problems

The Great River Ouse nearly always has far too much e-coli in the water.

Oil, chemicals and litter from roads might be getting into the river.

The river is very polluted.

Where does the pollution come from?

E-coli can come from sewage (poo and wee from toilets) which sometimes gets put into the river.

E-coli can come from animal poo and wee as well, from wild animals and farm animals.

Pollution from roads gets washed into drains by the rain. Sometimes there is so much dirty rain water in the drains that it doesn't get cleaned before going into the river.

What does the pollution do?

River pollution is a serious issue because it significantly harms plants and animals in and near the water. Fish and other animals can die.

People can become very ill if polluted water from the river gets into their bodies or onto their skin.

How can the pollution be stopped?

The water company can make sure the sewage is cleaned before it goes into our river.

The water company can clean dirty rain water before it goes into our river.

2. Outline the task: to write a persuasive text to persuade someone to take action to clean the River Great Ouse.

3. Read and analyse an example of a persuasive text at an appropriate level (for example, a persuasive letter
Identify key features and structure of the text type.

4. Develop a writing frame based on key features and structure of the text type

Persuasive genre writing frames within <https://www.bell-foundation.org.uk/resources/great-ideas/speaking-and-writing-frames/> This document is hosted by The Bell Foundation.

5. Consider oral presentation or oral rehearsal of arguments by learners

6. Independent writing task

7. Self-assessment/peer/teacher assessment as appropriate

