



# Falkirk Canals Classroom



Learning Activities for  
Primary Schools



HERITAGE  
FUND

Great Place<sup>®</sup>  
Celebrate Your Heritage



The European Agricultural Fund  
for Rural Development  
Europe investing in rural areas



gov.scot



Scottish Rural  
Development  
Programme







## Art and the Canals



The natural beauty, picturesque landscapes and wide variety of wildlife make the canal a source of inspiration for creating art. The following section will outline activities that will engage pupils with the canal as they discover and create their own artistic projects.



# Canal Art

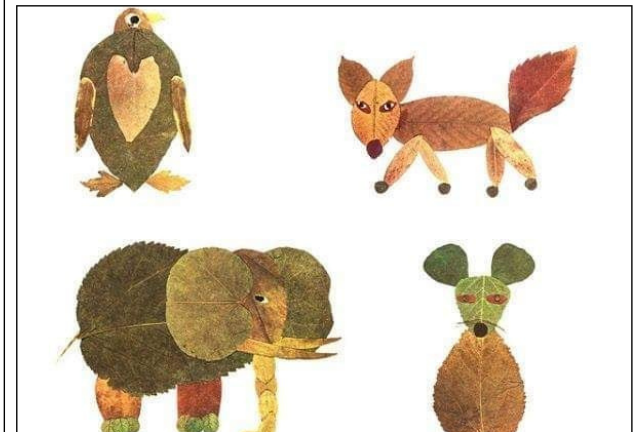
To help make your own Falkirk Canal Art, think about these questions before deciding what to do



What do you see at the Falkirk's Canals? - make sure to look at the colours and the reflections



What could you safely collect to make your Falkirk Canal Art?



What would you like your finished Canal Art to look like?



# Q&A with local artist Heather Cumming

## What is your profession?

I'm a creative designer specialising in branding, graphic design and illustration, although I also get involved in art initiatives such as this.

## What is the artwork called?

Full Circle.



## What does the artwork represent?

Full Circle represents the arcs of the Falkirk Wheel and their reflection in the water. The choice of colours reflect the lighting on the wheel at night, but also represents the ideas of hope and optimism.

## Why do you make this type of art?

The artwork is part of the Canal Encounters programme. A month long trail and series of activities between the Kelpies and the Falkirk Wheel. The brief was to create something that celebrates the history and ecology of the canal.

## What inspired you to make this piece?

My installation is based on the Falkirk Wheel which is an important historic milestone in the canals history.

## What connection does this have to Falkirk Canals?

It represents the ecology of the canal and the relationship between the structure of the Falkirk Wheel and the environment of the canal.

## What might you recommend young people to do if they're inspired to make art about Falkirk Canals?

**Go for it!** Explore different themes around the canal and play with a variety of mediums to find what best represents your ideas.







# Art

You will create a piece of art about your trip to the canal.



## Look



- Look closely at the Andy Goldsworthy artwork below
- Look at other images of artwork using nature in this booklet, and write down what you like about them
- Look closely at the nature around you on the canal paths

## Talk



- Talk about the Andy Goldsworthy artwork – what do you see? Do you like it? What do you like about it?
- Talk about what plants and animals you might see along the canal – and talk about how you could use them in your own artwork
- Talk about what you should and should not collect from nature – make a list as you go

## Make



- As you collect items for your artwork, use the Scrapbook page to keep or draw pictures of what you find
- Make a poster or sculpture back in the classroom with what you collected or sketched





# Scrapbook





**Congratulations on completing this section of the booklet.  
Have your teacher tick off your achievements in Art**

---

Subject	Code	Description	Achieved
Art	EXA 0-05a	Inspired by a range of stimuli, I can express and communicate my ideas, thoughts and feelings through activities within art and design	<input type="checkbox"/>
Art	EXA 1-05a	Inspired by a range of stimuli, I can express and communicate my ideas, thoughts and feelings through activities within art and design.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Art	EXA 2-05a	Inspired by a range of stimuli, I can express and communicate my ideas, thoughts and feelings through activities within art and design	<input type="checkbox"/>

---