



Canals and canal boats

Have you been on a canal?

Summary

Stanley and Louie live in a lock keeper's cottage. They take a trip along a canal, spotting a variety of wildlife on the way. They discuss water safety and travel down a lock as well as giving us a short tour of the inside of a narrowboat.

Check you know the keywords

canal, lockkeeper, waterway, narrowboat, life jacket, wildlife, ducks, geese, transport, water

Watch the video and answer the questions

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/learningzone/clips/9465.html>

- 1) What is a canal?
- 2) Why is it called a narrowboat?
- 3) Why do they always wear their lifejackets?
- 4) The boat looks small on the outside, but what about inside?
- 5) What if it gets cold?
- 6) What if they get hungry?
- 7) What animals do they see outside the boat?
- 8) What is a canal lock?



Check your answers

- 1) It's a waterway, a bit like a river, but it's made by humans not by nature
- 2) Because of its shape – it's long and thin, it's narrow.
- 3) Because it can be dangerous.
- 4) It's very big on the inside.
- 5) There is a fire.
- 6) There is a kitchen with a sink.
- 7) They see algae (not seaweed), pigeons, seagulls, baby coots (black birds with white markings on the face), mallard ducks, and 7 mallard ducklings.
- 8) It's a gate for boats on canals so they can travel uphill or downhill.