

Water tarpaulin

**Stages: EY – P4****Time: 1-2 hours**

Purpose: This activity will help pupils learn how water flows in natural environments. The lessons were created by Keep Wales Tidy.

Curricular links

SCN 0-1-05a, 0-1-15a

SOC 0-1-08a

TCH 0-1-09a

Activity

The Water tarpaulin activity has been created for [3-7 year olds](#) and [7-9 year olds](#) by Keep Wales Tidy. The activity involves recreating a natural water flow over a tarpaulin.

Pupils can experiment with natural materials to create barriers and dams. More water can be added to simulate flooding.

Background information is included to help connect the activity to climate change.

Extension – how trees help prevent flooding

The water tarpaulin activity can be linked to the flow of water in woodland and forests by considering how tree roots hold soil together and create pockets for water to be stored.

You could try to recreate the effect of tree roots on water flow using sticks and soil to make a model. Add water and see how your model tree roots affect water movement over the tarpaulin, compared to soil on its own.

