

Primary Education

Rivers, more than just water

Aim:

To find out the importance of the interaction between the different elements of the river's ecosystem.

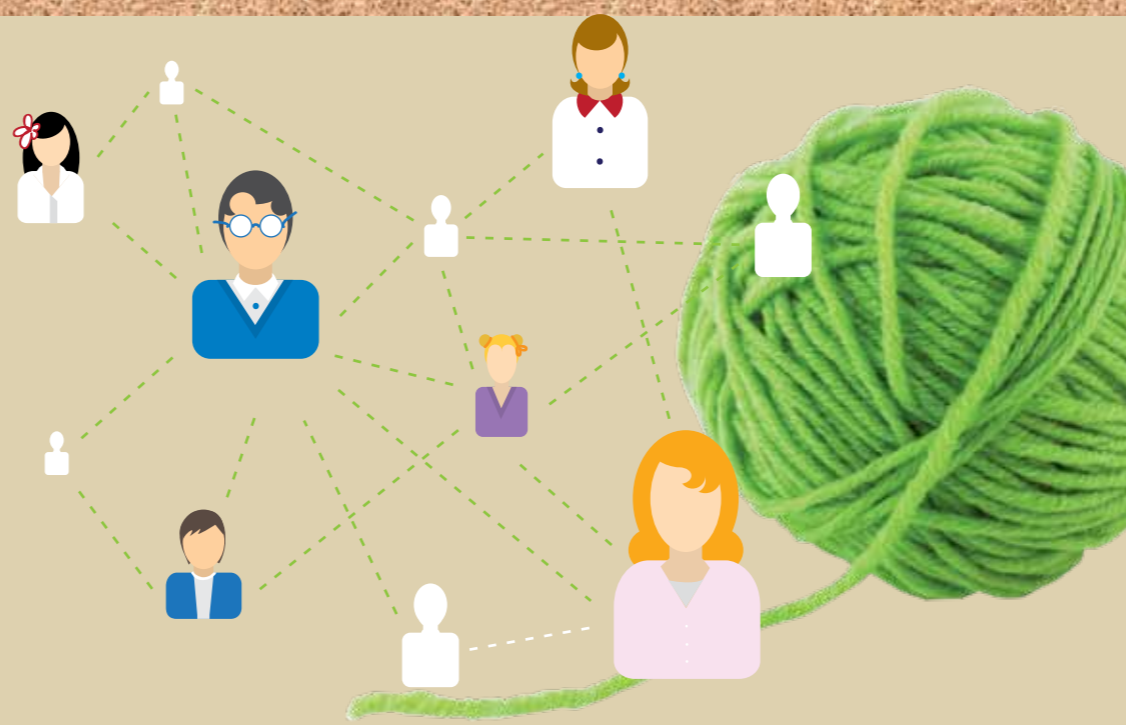
Skills covered:

- Scientific, technological and health-related culture
- Social and citizen-related

Rivers are one of the most important ecosystems on the planet, as without water life would not exist. In an ecosystem, innumerable interactions are given between living and inert beings and thanks to them life evolves. Human beings also interact in that system, unfortunately often to the detriment of the river, as we use it for our leisure activities, for irrigation or for dumping our dirty water. Everything is interrelated!!


Activity
Procedure

- 1 The drawing shows some elements of the river's ecosystem divided into four groups: characteristics of the course, fauna, flora and human influence. Choose one and:
- 2 Make a brief study on that element. Then, prepare a data sheet like the one on the next page. Some are very specific and others, however, are much more general, such as leisure (in this case choose something more specific such as canoeing or swimming) or stones and rocks (you can take limestone as a starting point).
- 3 Next, each person must hang their identifying sheet around their neck.
- 4 One component of the group, holding tightly onto the start of a ball of wool, must throw the hank to whoever represents an element related to their own and this second component will do the same with a third, explaining the relationship. This way, all the components will end up related.
- 5 All the elements and their relationships can be represented on a mural.



ELEMENT:

What is it? What are its characteristics?

DRAWING or PHOTOGRAPH

What function does it perform in the river?

What damage or benefit does it provide to the river?