

# History



## Find out about Lock Cottage's past...

Hello! Welcome to Lock Cottage. My name is Billy and I lived here since I was born in 1845 with my Mum, Dad and 2 brothers and sister!

I loved living on the canal, it was such fun! Lots of boats went past my house every day. Most of them carried clay up to the potteries and then carried the finished pots back to sell in the city. My favourite boat was the chocolate boat from the Cadbury factory. We raced home from school to meet it by our lock so Tim the boatman could give us a chocolate bar! Mmmmm. Sometimes the boatmen let us travel for a mile or two on the top. It was much more fun than practising numbers for homework.



At the weekend I helped dad. We walked along the tow path clearing the brambles, trimming the hedges and making sure that the horses could walk easily past. We oiled the doors on the lock and checked the canal water levels; no one wanted it to flood! We were so smelly at the end of the day Mum made us have a bath. She and my sister Milly had to walk all the way to the village pump and fill the buckets up with water. Mum heated the water over the range (that's a sort of stove to cook on) before she poured them into our tin bath. I hated having a bath in the tub - if I could swim I'd rather have a bath in the canal!



I shared a bed with my brothers and sisters. We'd top and tail so we could all fit in. I can't wait till I'm older and get to have my very own bed! No more smelly feet in my face. At least in winter it was nice and cosy, even if my sister Milly did make us warm the bed up before she got in!

## Canal Facts:

Did you know that the maximum speed on canals is 4 miles an hour.

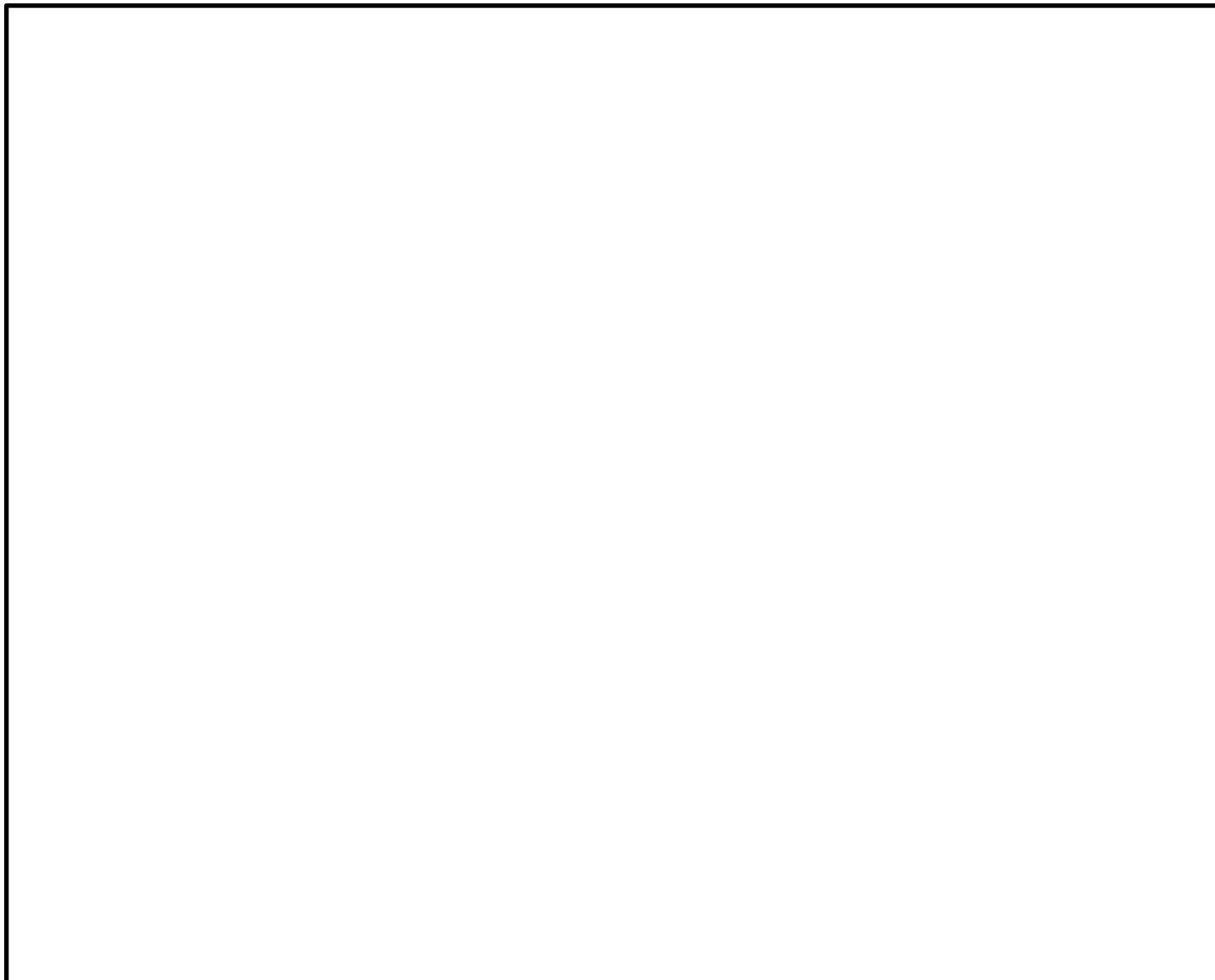
There are 1,654 locks in Britain.

Canals were built by people to carry things from one place to another



It was great fun in the winter. Sometimes the canal froze right over. Canal workers had to come and break the ice so the boats could get through. If it was really cold and had snowed they knew there was no point in breaking the ice as it'd freeze over again. When the ice was really thick we had competitions to see who could slide the furthest. WE ran really fast to get up speed. Once the ice broke and I fell in up to my middle. It was freezing! Mum was really cross – but then she saw how cold I was and wrapped me in a blanket by the range to get warm.

In the box below draw a picture of us sliding over the ice on the canal.



When I'm older I want to live on a boat and travel all the canals. Imagine all the different places there are to see and all the fun things there are to do! Where do you want to live when you're older?

.....

# Unruly Rulers

## Who were the Georgians?

The **Georgians** were nobles from Germany. George I was King James I's great grandson. So when Queen Anne died with no heirs George became king. They are called **Georgians** because they are all called George (apart from William – but he wasn't meant to be king anyway!) Their surname was **Hanover** so this time is also called the **Hanoverian** (say 'han-o-ver-ee-an') period.



### King George II

A boring king who only liked to fight battles. He died on the toilet of constipation, pooh!

1714

### King George I

A king from Germany who couldn't speak much English. He kept his wife in prison for 32 years - how mean!



1727

1760

### King George III

A popular king who went mad. He started talking to an oak tree in Windsor thinking it was Frederick the Great! Poor Georgie, he had to stop ruling as he was so mad.



George III's son George IV had to step in and rule as Prince Regent. This was called the **Regency Period**.



### King George IV

A bad king who ruined all his dad's hard work. He loved to drink, eat and party!

1820

1830

### King William IV

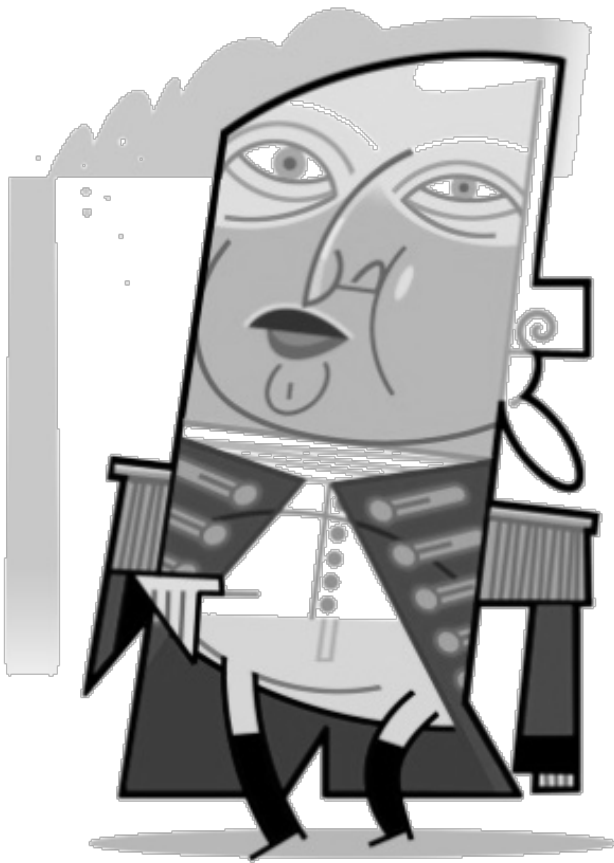
A simple king who wanted to be a sailor but was too stupid to command a ship. He would sometimes offer people a lift in his carriage!





# Meet King George III

– who ruled when this Landmark was built.



## Hi Georgie!

### So when did you become king?

I became King on 25 October 1760 when I was just 22.

### What are you most famous for?

I went mad, don't you know!

### What is your favourite thing to do?

I like playing with my youngest children. I had 15 in all!

### What is the naughtiest thing you've ever done?

I tried to tax the Americans in the colonies and do you know what? They declared their independence!



## History of canals

The late 1700s saw the start of the **Industrial Revolution**. Many factories were built in the big towns, especially factories making cloth. Lots of iron and coal was needed to power the factories and heat the workers' houses but it was mined far away in the country. The roads were very bad and it took a very long time to transport the coal and iron by road in a wagon.

Goods were carried by sea and river all the time. Then people realised that if they made their own waterway, they could move goods exactly where they were needed. These waterways were called canals. Canals made transport much easier and faster. Many factories were built right next to canals to make it even easier. The goods were loaded straight into a narrow boat and then a horse pulled it along the towpath.

Building a canal took many years and was a very hard and dirty job. The canals were dug by workers called 'navvies'. The navvies dug out the channels and then used wooden frames to support the sides so the channel didn't collapse. They used clay, limestone, brick or stone to line the channel so the water didn't soak away into the ground. Once it was waterproof, water was channelled from nearby streams and rivers to fill the canal. Job done!

Each canal had Lengthsmen who looked after their own 'length' of canal and towpath. They lived in cottages built along the canal so they were close by to make sure the locks were in good working order.

Railways and steam engines were invented soon after all the canals were built. Railways were much faster than canal boats and could carry a lot more. This meant that canals were soon no longer used as much. Today most of the narrow boats on the canals are carrying people on holiday. Perhaps one day you'll have a holiday on a narrow boat!

### Fact:

The **Industrial Revolution** was a time of great change. New machines were invented to spin cotton and weave cloth. Big factories were built in the cities and many people moved from the country to live and work in the cities.

Before canals one packhorse could carry about 100kg of goods. A narrow boat on a canal pulled by one horse could carry about 20 tons – the same as 200 horses by themselves!

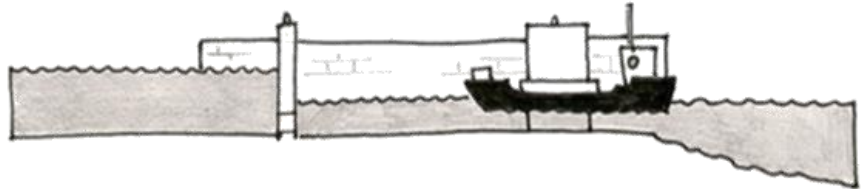




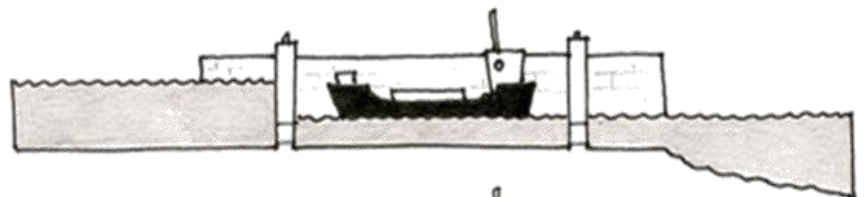
## How does a lock work?

The one problem with canals is that it was difficult to travel up and down hill. Water doesn't go uphill by itself. Or does it? Locks were designed to help boats move up and down hill. Look at the diagram below to see how a lock works.

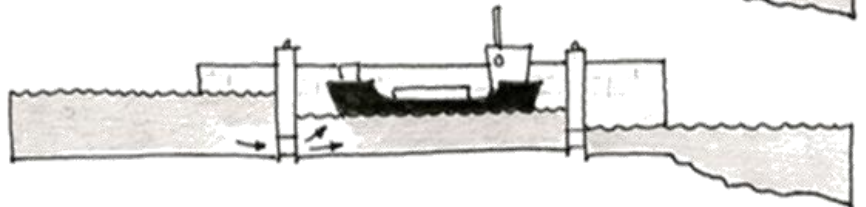
1. If a boat wants to go uphill it goes into the lock at a lower level of water. The paddles and gates open for the lock to fill to the same level of water.



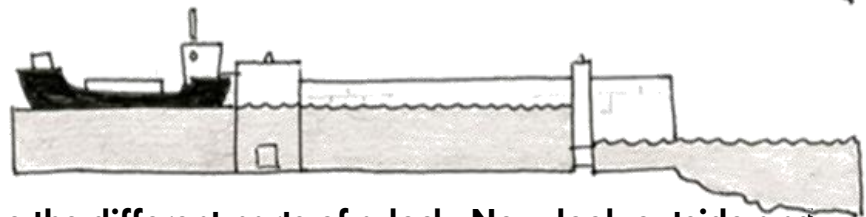
2. Once the lock is the same level the boat goes into the lock, and the gates and paddles close behind it.



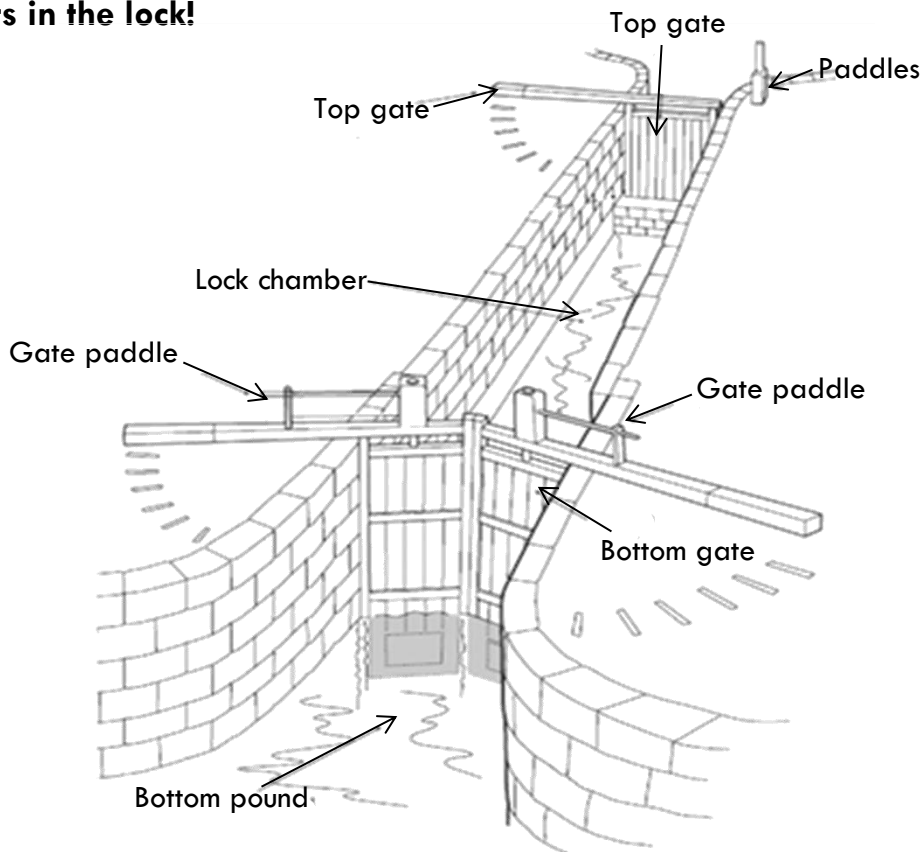
4. Then the second set of paddles open to let water fill the lock to the higher level - a bit like filling a bath!



5. The boat rises up on the water to the higher level. When the lock is full the top gates are opened and the boat can go on its way.



Take a look at the diagram below to see the different parts of a lock. Now look outside and spot these bits in the lock!



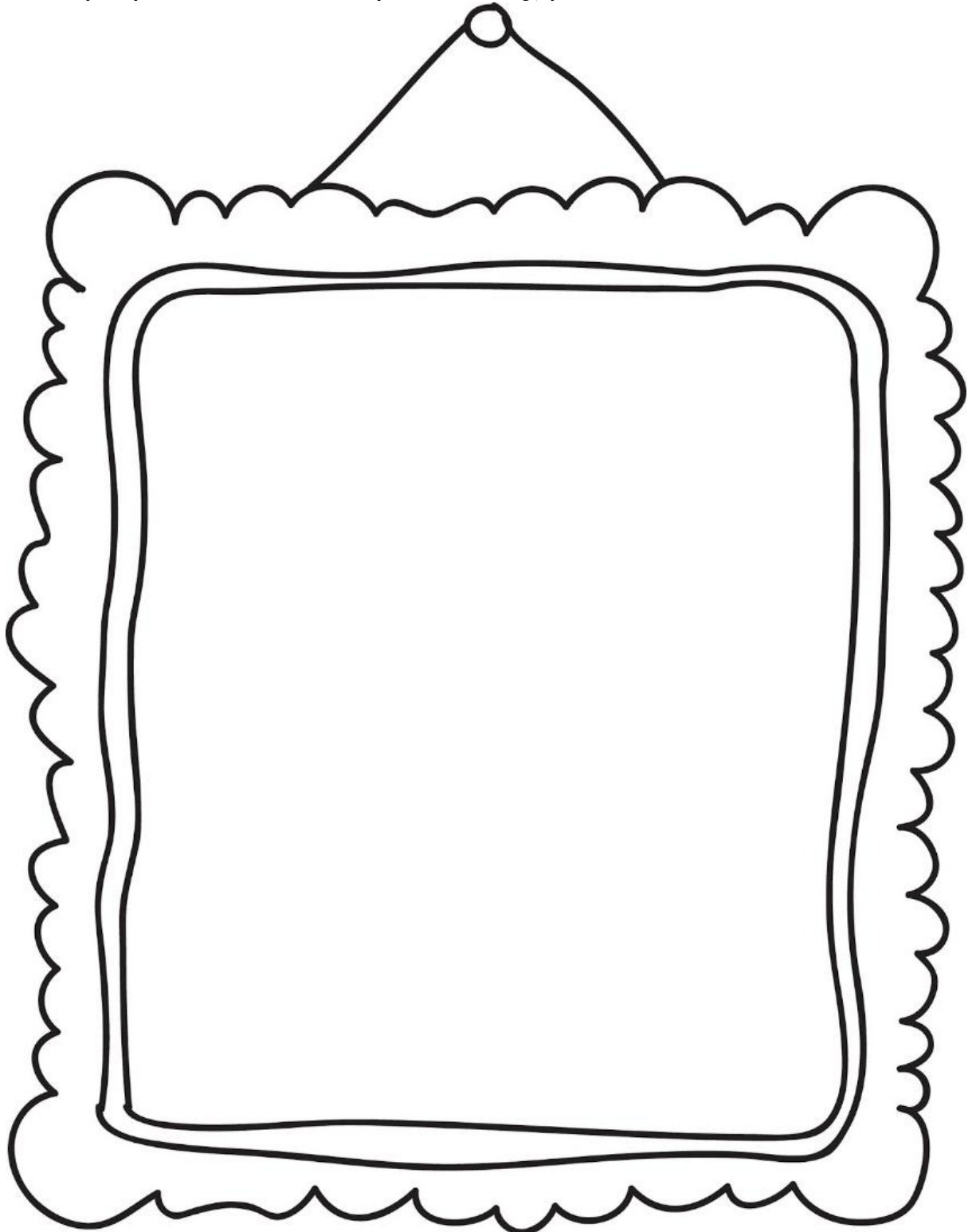


Buildings are quite easy to draw. They are usually made up of lots of geometric shapes, like squares, triangles and circles.

**Have a go at drawing the front of Lock Cottage.**

Please tell an adult where you are going so they don't worry about where you are!

And don't worry if you make a mess of your drawing, just use the other side.



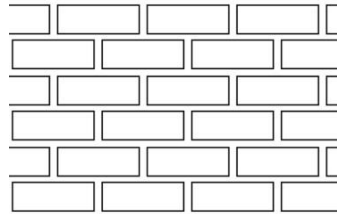


## What is Lock Cottage built from?

### Fact:

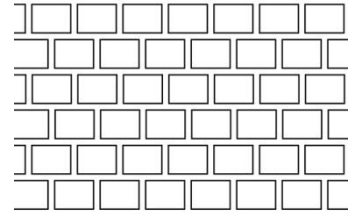
The earliest bricks date back to about 7,500BC and were made of mud. The mud was packed into wooden moulds. They were then turned out and left to dry in the sun until they were hard. The first fired bricks were made around 3,000BC. Fired bricks were better suited to wetter climates.

Today we make bricks by mixing together clay, sand and lime. This mixture is poured into a mould, dried and then fired in an oven at 1100 degrees.



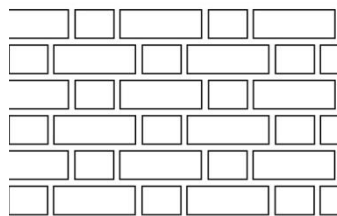
#### **Stretcher bond**

The simplest bond to lay – using the long face of the brick.

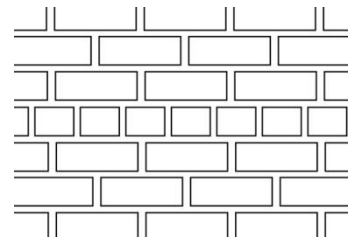


#### **Header bond**

The bricks are laid with the header facing outwards. The header is the end of the brick.



**Flemish bond** Bricks are laid with one header and one long face.



#### **English bond**

Three rows of long face and one row, of headers.

Go outside and see if you can see all the different colour of bricks at Lock Cottage. The different colours show the different stages of building.





# Quest



## Discover more about the canal.

Lock Cottage was built around 1816 as part of the Worcester Birmingham Canal. The canal was opened in 1814. It was built to transport goods like pottery and even chocolate! When you go for a walk along the canal see if you can find these things.

### Can you see any raised bricks?

Raised bricks were used to help the horses who were pulling the canal boats to stop slipping.



### Can you see any grooves on tunnel walls or along the top of canal bridges?

These grooves were made by the towing ropes that the horses pulled the boats with.



### Can you find any bollards and rings?

These are very important as the boat ties its ropes to these to 'moor'. They stop the boat from floating away and keep it in the same place.



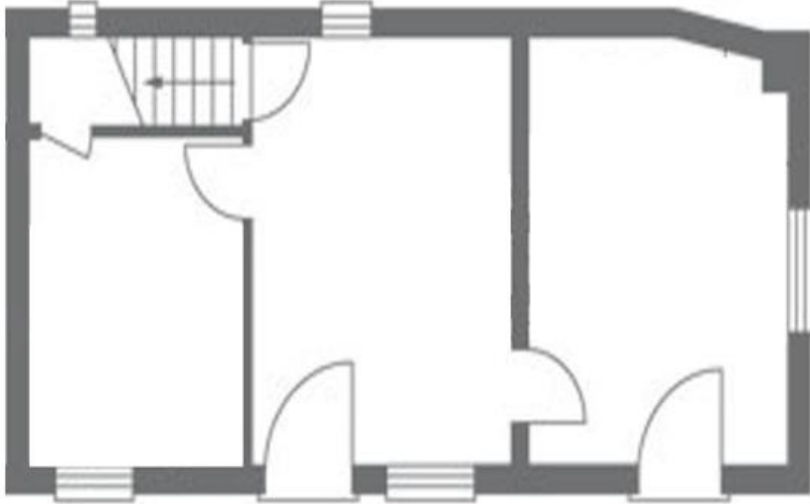
Have you found anything else interesting on your quest?  
Write about it below and draw a picture of it in the box.



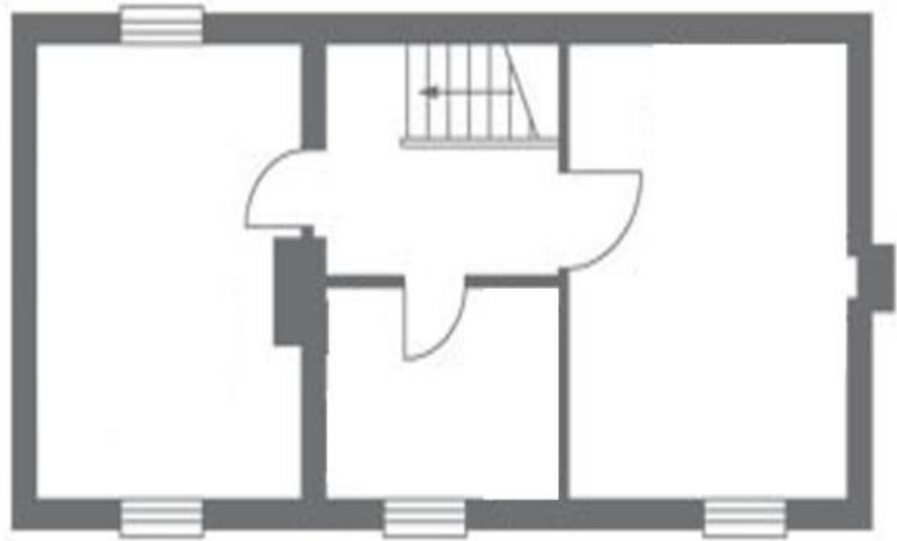
## Living in Lock Cottage

The floorplan of a building is a map of the rooms. The plan below shows you the shape of each room. Take a walk around each room and write on the plan what each room is used for.

**Ground Floor**



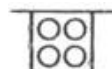
**First Floor**



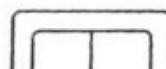
We use these symbols to show where beds, tables and bathrooms are. Draw the symbols on to the floorplans to show where the furniture is.



Bathroom



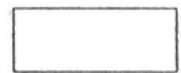
Cooker



Sofa



Bed



Rectangular (or a round) table



Kitchen sink



Can you find an example of each of these things inside Lock Cottage. Describe, or draw the object when you find it.

Your favourite chair

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for drawing or describing a favourite chair.

The fireplace (is it an open fire or does it have a stove?)

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for drawing or describing a fireplace.

Draw the pattern of a rug on the floor

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for drawing the pattern of a rug.

### Fact:

Did you know that water can wear things away? As boats go past, they make small waves that wash the banks away. 200 years ago, the canal builders knew that planting reeds against the banks would help to stop this from happening.

In the box below, draw the view from your favourite window. What can you see in the distance? Is anyone on the canal?

A large, empty rectangular box with a thick black border, intended for drawing a view from a window.



## Canal Word Search

Now have a go at the word search. Think about different parts of the building and the canal. The words to find are at the bottom of the page.

H O U N S D R A L L O B C L  
 E L O C K A S C S G N I R E  
 L K E E D L H P D U B C T N  
 C Y N N W T E O O C A R G O  
 O W O E G M N E L S O I C P  
 T D I G I T O W P A T H E A  
 T T W D N A H N B L U O N D  
 A O F I T T T S E I B R N D  
 G E H R O I O H M C S S R L  
 P O T T E R Y A L E O E E E  
 L I G T H I L G D N N S Z L  
 O B R I C K S T R P U G I G  
 I S I T M O I L A N A C N N

CANAL  
BOAT  
LENGTHSMEN  
TOWPATH

COTTAGE  
POTTERY  
LOCK  
HORSES

TUNNEL  
KNOT  
BOLLARDS  
BRIDGE

RINGS  
BRICKS  
PADDLE  
CARGO

How many of these words did you find? Put your score in the box.

/
16



## Can you answer these questions correctly?

1. How much could one horse-drawn narrowboat carry?

200 tons

20 tons

200kg

2kg

2. How many locks are there in the United Kingdom?

1,654

6,154

4,516

5,461

3. What year did the canal open here?

1801

1814

1866

1987

4. What county is Lock Cottage in?

Wiltshire

Yorkshire

Worcestershire

Kent

5. What is the name of the Canal here?

Shropshire Union  
Canal

Trent & Mersey  
Canal

Oxford Canal

Worcester and  
Birmingham Canal

6. What does a lock do?

It does nothing, it just  
looks pretty

Make a boat traffic  
Jam

Helps a boat move  
up and down hill

Makes a swimming  
pool

7. Why did the canals stop being used to carry so many goods?

People were scared  
of water

The horses got too  
tired

Trains and railways  
were invented

There were too many  
boat crashes

8. What is the maximum speed you can travel on a canal?

100mph

10mph

70mph

4mph

To find the answers skip a page...



## Which boat is which?

There are five pictures of river and canal boats for you to match.



**Maintenance barge**, they look after the canals and boats.



**Kayak**, they have a closed deck and the paddles have two blades.



**Sea-going cruiser**, they can be used on the sea and rivers.



**Skiff**, they are small rowing boats used for fishing and fun.



**Narrowboat**, some people live on them and some people have holidays on them.

Did you match them correctly? Put your score in the box.



Look out for these when you go for a walk!



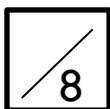
# Answer sheet:

## Quiz answers:

1. 20 tons
2. 1,654
3. 1814
4. Warwickshire
5. Worcester and Birmingham Canal
6. Helps a boat move up and down hill
7. Trains and railways were invented
8. 4mph

**Fact:**  
 Rubbish was carried on boats long after dustbin lorries became popular as they could carry so much. Local authorities had their own fleets of boats to collect rubbish. What smelly boats!

How many did you get right?



## Have a go at writing your own quiz to test your family and friends!

1. ....

a. ....    b. ....    c. ....    d. ....

2. ....

a. ....    b. ....    c. ....    d. ....

3. ....

a. ....    b. ....    c. ....    d. ....

4. ....

a. ....    b. ....    c. ....    d. ....

5. ....

a. ....    b. ....    c. ....    d. ....







## Draw your own narrow boat

Boats were used to carry goods such as food, beer, coal and timber to sell (like a lorry nowadays). Locks are now mainly used by people who are travelling on boats for fun. The very long boats are called narrow boats. Lots of people have holidays on these boats travelling around the country. Have a go at designing your own narrow boat below. Or draw your favourite boat that you saw at the lock!





## Plum cake

Here's a simple recipe for you to try. You might need the help of an adult.

- 8 plums (take out the stones)
- 1 cup caster sugar
- 4 large eggs
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- 1 cup olive oil

Preheat the oven to gas: 5, fan: 190°C

- Line a rectangular baking tray with greaseproof paper
- Chop the plums in quarters
- Crack the eggs into a bowl and beat together, add the sugar and mix together until thick
- Add the olive oil and vanilla extract into the mixture (keep mixing!)
- Mix in the lemon zest and yogurt
- Sift the flour and baking powder into the mixture folding it into the mixture
- Pour the mixture into the tray and press the plums in on top
- Bake in the oven for 35-40 minutes
- Cut into slices and eat! Mmmm!

