

Chapter 13

A River's Journey



Look carefully at the picture of the river. Read the words given below.

Boat, flowing water, clouds, fish, aquatic plants, river, big boat, oil, riverbank, foul smell, factories, washing clothes, animals, other works, changes, city.

Use these words to make a story. Give a title to your story also.



Look at the pictures again and answer the following questions.

- What is the colour of water from where the river begins ?

- At some places, there are many fish in the river, at other places there are only a few and at some places there are dead fish. What could be the reason for this ? Discuss.



- What can be seen in the river before it reaches the village ?



- At which places did the colour of the water in the river change ? Why did this happen ? Discuss.
- Which of the places shown in the picture would you like to live in? Why ?

- Would you like to change any of the things that you see in the picture ? Why and how ?

- What could be done to keep rivers clean ? Discuss.

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- If you wanted to drink some water, from which part of the river would you like to drink ? Why ?

- In the last part of the picture the river flows into the sea. Have you ever seen the sea ? Where ? In a movie or somewhere else ?



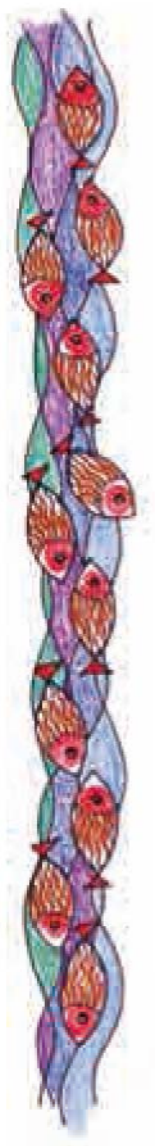
- Have you ever been near a river or sea ? When ?

- Show with your hands and draw, how the waves move in the sea.

- Is the water from the sea drinkable ? Why ?

- Do you think that there would be changes taking place in a river, pond or stream at different times of the year ? What kind of changes would these be ? Discuss.





- Will there be the same amount of water in the ponds or rivers during the rainy season and in summer ?

Get information about river, pond or puddle near by your village or city.

- Are there any changes in their water during summer, rainy season and in winter ?
- What are the different kinds of aquatic animals found there ?
- What kind of trees and plants grow around it ?
- What kinds of birds come there ?
- Have you ever seen, heard or read about floods ? Where ?
- What happens when there is a flood ?
- Have you seen dirty water in a river or pond ? Where ?

- How would you know if the water is dirty ? If the water looks clean, can you be sure that it is drinkable ? Discuss.

How does water become dirty ?

You saw in the picture that as the river flowed near many villages, towns and city, the people used the river water for different purpose. Like, washing clothes, bathing animals and cleaning utensils. Thus, the river is not the same like when it was in the beginning. Many of these activities made the water dirty. The water in the river kept changing as it flowed through various places. Water in ponds and lakes can also become dirty due to similar reasons.

From where do you get your drinking water ? A river or a lake ? Do you think that like the river in the picture your river or lake can also be affected ?



Do this :

For this activity you will need to bring certain things from your home. You will find most of these in the kitchen.

- Salt, sugar, *haldi*, flour, baking soda, and *dal* (about half a tablespoon each)
- Lemon juice, soap water, *sharbat*, oil (about half a tablespoon each)
- 5 or 6 glasses or bottles.

What will you do ?

Fill about half of each glass or bottle with water. Make sure that all have the same amount of water. Now, one by one, put each of the things in the water. For example *haldi* in the first glass, oil in the second glass, soda in the third glass. Stir it with spoon and see what would happen ! Write your observations in the table.





What did you observe ? Put (✓) mark in the right places.

Things	Dissolved in water	Did not dissolve in water	Colour of water changes	Colour of water does not change
Sugar				
Salt				
Lemon juice				
<i>Haldi</i>				
Soap water				
Flour				
<i>Dal</i>				
<i>Sharbat</i>				
Cooking Soda				
Oil (mustard, <i>Til</i> or any other)				

Now on the basis of your observations tell -

- Do all things dissolve in water ?
- Does the colour of the water always change as each material is added ?
- Did oil dissolve in water ? How can you say whether it has dissolved or not ?

Colour of the water may not change even after some things are dissolved in it. Would you say that these are absent in water ?

- Imagine how it would be if things like sugar, salt, lemon juice, *sharbat* etc., could not dissolve in water !
- Imagine how it would be if things like stones, chalk, plastic and garbage would dissolve in water !



Think :

Do all the things dissolve easily in water ? From them many things like stones, plastic, chalk, garbage etc., dissolve in water then what would happen ? Some of these can be very harmful for our body. Hence, it is important that we purify water before drinking it. One of the best ways to do this is to boil the water. If for some reason this cannot be done, can you think of some other ways to clean water ?

- How is drinking water purified in your house ?
- Find out the different ways of purifying water at home.
- Draw pictures showing any two ways of purifying the water.



