

## Core Skills Analysis

### Geography and Environmental Awareness

- Learned about canals as an important part of the UK's inland waterway network, including their role in transportation and local ecology.
- Gained first-hand experience of navigating a tug boat, fostering an understanding of water travel and its challenges.
- Observed the natural and man-made surroundings along the Leeds Liverpool Canal, enhancing spatial awareness and environmental observation skills.
- Understood the relationship between waterways and nearby communities through the practical context of sailing.

### Science and Physics

- Explored concepts related to buoyancy and water navigation by experiencing a tug boat in motion.
- Observed how steering and control mechanisms work on a boat, introducing basic mechanical principles.
- Noticed the effects of water currents and vessel movement, offering insight into forces acting on objects in water.
- Experienced practical applications of physics concepts such as balance, resistance, and motion firsthand.

### Personal Development and Social Skills

- Developed confidence and a sense of adventure by visiting and sailing on a tug boat, a novel environment for many children.
- Enhanced observational skills and curiosity about technical equipment and navigation.
- Fostered family connections and collaboration by engaging with a family member in a shared activity.
- Practiced safety awareness by observing or adhering to rules during a real sailing experience.

### Tips

To further enrich Amelia's learning from this experience, consider incorporating interactive geography projects such as creating a map tracing the Leeds Liverpool Canal and identifying key landmarks or ecosystems along the route. Connect the experience with science by experimenting with small homemade boats to explore buoyancy and water resistance at home or in a garden pond. Encourage reflective journaling or drawing to express what was observed and learned during the trip, reinforcing comprehension and emotional connection. Additionally, explore the history of tug boats and canal transportation in the UK through videos or local museums to deepen contextual understanding and engagement.

### Book Recommendations

- [The Canal Boat Mystery](#) by M. G. Leonard: A story introducing children to life along canals and the adventure of exploring boats and waterways.
- [Cool Boats and Ships](#) by Richard Platt: An informative book about different types of boats, including tug boats, explaining their functions and history.
- [The Watery World of Michael Recycle](#) by Ellis Craig: A story that mixes adventure with environmental awareness focusing on waterways and pollution.

### Learning Standards

- Geography: Locational knowledge and understanding of human and physical geography (UK

National Curriculum KS2, Geography Programmes of Study).

- Science: Forces and motion - understanding movement in water and basic physics principles (KS2 Science, Physics topics).
- PSHE and Personal Development: Developing confidence, social skills, and safety awareness (Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education).

### **Try This Next**

- Create a labeled diagram of a tug boat's main parts and their functions.
- Design a quiz exploring the geography of the Leeds Liverpool Canal and its significance.
- Build and test small model boats using different materials to experiment with buoyancy and stability.

### **Growth Beyond Academics**

This activity likely boosted Amelia's confidence and curiosity by engaging directly with a hands-on, adventurous experience. The shared family context of visiting her dad's tug boat may have strengthened social bonds and emotional security, while navigating safety and novel environments required focus and patience, supporting her personal independence and observational skills.