



# All About Eels!

## Learning Challenges Week Beginning 4<sup>th</sup> April 2020

This weekend is the Ely eel Festival. Usually we can all celebrate together down by the river but this year the celebrations are virtual. Our challenges this week are all about joining in with the festival and finding out why eels are important to our town.

<p>The Eel Festival usually begins with a parade of eels through town. This year there will be a special eel displayed in the Cathedral and everyone is invited to take part. Help to make the eel stretch around the building by printing and decorating the special eel colouring page. There is a link below and we have also put the document on the school website. Remember to send your picture to Oliver Cromwell house when it is finished.</p> <p>Extra challenge: Use the eel craft ideas below to make your own eel. You could take it on parade around your house!</p>	<p>The World Eel Throwing Competition is held every year during the Eel Festival. Luckily they throw toys, not real eels! The world record is a throw of 17.7 meters which was set in 2013. Find a big space and a ball or bean bag then set up your own throwing competition. Who in your house can throw the ball the furthest? Can you measure the distance? Find a way to record your results.</p> <p>Extra challenge: Make a medal for the winner. Include an eel in your design.</p>	<p>Before we could watch news on the TV or read it on our phone, every town had a town crier. Their job was to ring a bell and use a very loud voice to share important information with everyone. Ely still has a town crier, her name is Avril Hayter. Watch a video of her Eel Festival message. Think of some news from this week that you would like to share and make up your own town cry. It could be something new you have learnt, a special event or a way in which you have helped someone.</p> <p>Extra challenge: Write your news on a scroll like Avril's and keep it ready to share when we are back at school. We might have our own town crier competition!</p>
<p>Find out why Ely has an eel festival. Look at the links below with an adult or look at the Eel Trail leaflet. Talk to someone in your house about what you have learnt.</p> <p>Extra challenge: Choose your 3 favourite facts about eels and Ely. Write them down so we can share them when we are back at school.</p>	<p>There is always music at the Eel Festival. This year there is a special playlist of songs from the 1940s as the Festival is also celebrating the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of VE Day. Have a listen to some songs. Do you like them? Pick some music and create your own dance routine.</p> <p>Extra challenge: Make a list of your 3 favourite songs and who they are by. Keep it ready to share when we are back at school so we can put together our own celebration playlist.</p>	<p>Ely has an Eel Trail that shows visitors all of the interesting places in our town. There is a map they can use so they don't get lost! Make a map of interesting place in your house, garden or street. Use pictures and try to add some labels.</p> <p>Extra challenge: Explore the Ely Eel trail when you are out for a walk. Look for the small, round brass plaques in the pavement. How many can you find?</p>

## Useful links to look at with an adult.

Please be mindful of e-safety, particularly with Youtube links.

Ely Eel Festival Town Crier message:

<https://elyeelfestival.co.uk/eelday/elys-town-crier-avril-hayter/>

Ely Eel Festival eel craft activities:

<https://elyeelfestival.co.uk/eelday/eel-day-2020-virtual-style/>

Ely Eel Festival community art project:

<https://elyeelfestival.co.uk/eelday/eel-day-community-project/>

Information about the Eel Festival:

<https://elyeelfestival.co.uk/eelday/why-does-ely-have-an-eel-festival/>

Local news report from 2017:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XvSvSfi38ms>

Information about the history of eel catching in Ely from Ely Museum:

<http://www.elymuseum.org.uk/uncategorised/museumfromhome-eels/>

Ely Eel Festival VE Day playlist:

<https://elyeelfestival.co.uk/eelday/virtual-street-party-playlist/>

