



West Cumbria Rivers Trust

Caring for our Lakes and Rivers

European Eel Migration Maze!



Help Ellie the eel find her way across the Atlantic Ocean from the coast of Mexico. After 3 years, and 3000 miles of swimming she will settle down in a freshwater Cumbrian Lake!

START



Ellie needs to avoid fishers in the sea, dams in the rivers, and hungry predators to make it to Cumbria safely. Good Luck!



Watch Out! Herons and otters are the European eels' natural predators.

FINISH

Other eels like Ellie have stopped migrating up rivers due to man-made barriers like dams. Over the last 20 years, the European eel population has decreased by 90%.

Well Done! Once Ellie has enjoyed 20 years in Cumbria, she will make the journey back across the ocean to have her kids.

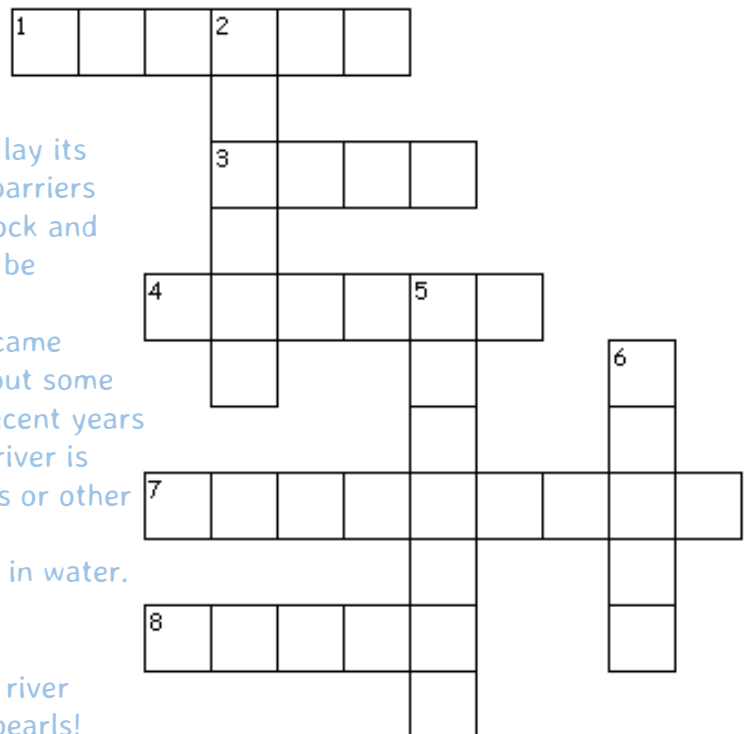
River Crossword!

Across

- This fish migrates upstream to lay its eggs but often faces man-made barriers
- A material, dislodged by livestock and humans that can cause a river to be polluted.
- This dam-building mammal became extinct in Britain 400 years ago but some have been spotted in the UK in recent years
- This word describes when the river is contaminated by waste, chemicals or other harmful substances
- This mammal lives on land and in water. Their home is called a 'holt'

Down

- This freshwater mollusc filters river water and occasionally contains pearls!
- Where the end of a river meets the ocean
- When the river breaks its banks and overflows, this can occur in the surrounding areas



DID YOU KNOW?

Kingfishers dive into the water with their eyes closed and beak open to catch prey!



Crossword answers: 1. Salmon, 2. Mussel, 3. Soil, 4. Beaver, 5. Estuary, 6. Flood, 7. Pollution, 8. Otter

