

- unspoiled vistas
- untamed
- free-roaming
- educational benefits
- mountain resorts

Task 11: What do you think about the government’s plans to allow the activities in Canadian National parks? Good for business – bad for nature? **Discuss** this issue in plenary after filling in the table below.

Table of issues

	good for parks	bad for nature	your opinion
fun	mountain biking	digging up ground shying away animals	individual solution
adventure			...
attractions			...
vistas			...

Record your discussion and keep the audio files for a later to be created **podcast*** on “nature parks“. With a partner add to your **pictionary*** using information so far collected.

Worksheet 1: Sightings

Task 1: The “Loch Ness Monster” belongs to the list of Scottish icons and is even well-known in far-away countries like Japan. To shed some light on the rumours connected with the monster, study the text at hand carefully, look up the location on a map and, in groups of four, **outline** and write down what you can make of this phenomenon – using the placemat activity*.

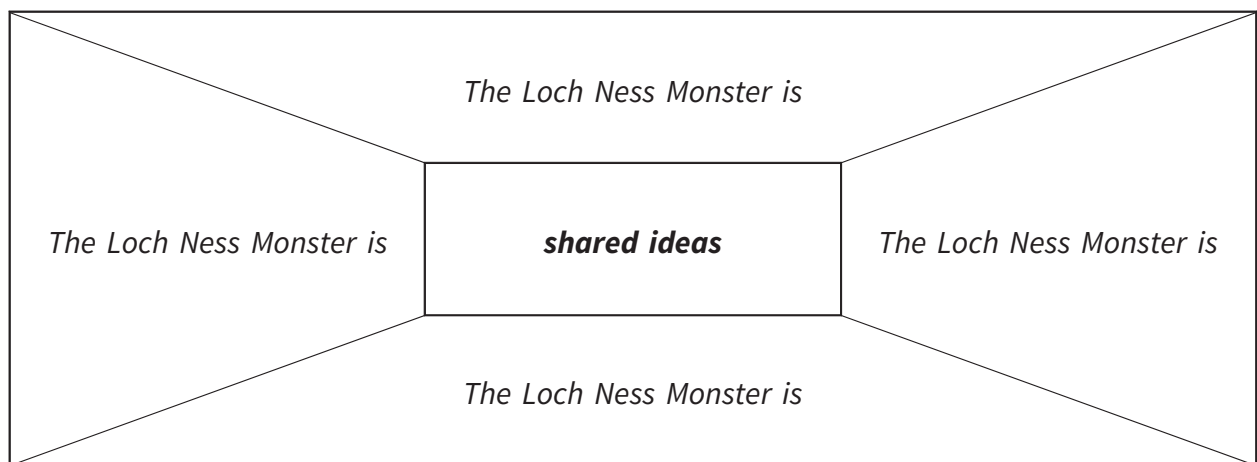
Text: The Caledonian Canal

If you go south from Inverness, you can't miss the famous Loch Ness. It is part of the Caledonian Canal, a deep crack dividing the mountains of the Scottish Highlands running from the south-west to the north-east. This is the reason why Loch Ness is extremely deep (1,000 feet), apart from being 24 miles long and 1 mile wide. It is deeper than the North Sea and offers plenty of room for big animals and rumours about them.

The biggest Scottish lake is famous all over the world not for its unspoiled and rugged landscape – but for the monster “Nessie” that is supposed to live there. There is no knowing whether this monster exists in reality or just as a fantasy, some people say yes (even the Japanese once launched a small submarine in the loch to get photos of “Nessie”), some people say no and call it a fabrication of the tourist industry.

Voc.: fabrication – Fälschung; to fabricate (verb)

Image of a placemat



Compare group results, especially the shared ideas in the middle.

Worksheet 2: Scientific background

Task 2: Read the following text. Note the key words **by explaining** the “scientific” background of the monster search. Work together with a partner in an inside-outside circle* and keep your notes for the discussion in task 3.

Scientific methods

When people talk about “Nessie”, they usually refer to the tourist hype created a long time ago and still attracting visitors from all over the world. But there is a scientific background to the phenomenon as well. “Nessie” is, after all, the most famous lake monster in the world. And at that is has generated multiple attempts to locate or even establish its very existence, even by Japanese scientists who have been known to develop a special submarine to be launched in Loch Ness.

This great lake, part of the Caledonian Canal, is of an enormous size, of great depth and filled with peat-stained water. All these factors, not taking into account the frequently misty weather in this part of Scotland, have contributed to the difficulties of finding the presumed big creature in the lake. Quite a few “serious” scientists still believe in its existence, have even developed special equipment to locate it and claim to have found evidence for its existence. They also believe that the “monster” could be millions of years old and continue to follow up the particular challenge created by a recent capture of a similar creature in the South Pacific. The search for “Nessie” has not lost any of its attractions and, if successful, might well end up as a new category of scientific zoology or even in the Guinness Book of Records.

Voc.: hype: Rummel; submarine: U-Boot; peat: Torf; to take into account: berücksichtigen

Key words:

.....

.....

.....

Worksheet 3: The story of Nessie updated

Task 3: Frequently, reports about ‘Nessie’ refer to the first sightings of the so-called “Monster of Loch Ness” and follow up her story to the present day.

Using think-pair-share * write down key words from the given story below and **comment** on how convinced you are by the reporting. In plenary, **discuss** the question “Does Nessie really exist or is it just a hoax invented by the tourist industry?”.

First Sightings of the Loch Ness Monster (1934)



Everybody seems to know “Nessie” nowadays

During his summer holiday in the North of Scotland, a Dr. Kenneth Wilson claimed to have taken a picture of “The Monster of Loch Ness”, which was later (1934) published in a British newspaper. But one of Wilson’s travelling companions revealed, in fact only on his deathbed, that the ‘Nessie’ photograph was meant as a joke and a hoax at that. Ever since, a greater number of pictures with ‘Nessie’ have appeared, often showing a creature with a long neck and two humps.

Recent observers also maintain that – even using binoculars – the sighting of creatures in the loch could easily be misleading such as the one in 2001. Very often, the sight is limited and, as a result, pictures taken are blurred and not very precise. Experts say that they have never seen a monster in Loch Ness for 24 years now. Reappearing photographs, however, establish the existence of some unrecorded creatures in the loch – but these might be otters or other unknown objects mistaken for ‘Nessie’, the last ‘sighting’ of which was recorded in 2001.

Commentary:

.....

Worksheet 4: Otterly – utterly

Task 4 (additional activity): Analyse the content of the following report and present your results on posters. Focus especially on the pun “utterly-otterly” and **comment** on the message implied here.

Voc.: otter: Flusstier, Otter; utterly: äußerst

Nessie revisited (2016)

More recent photographs, allegedly showing ‘Nessie’, have to undergo some scrutiny before they can pass as evidence of a larger creature in Loch Ness or even be taken seriously. Most of them show humps and a dinosaur-like head of a beast prowling the waters of Loch Ness. The problem with them is that the pictures are taken from some distance and the objects showing are not very distinctive. Dr. Wills, owner of the Seabirds-and-Seals boat trips, is reported to have documented recent sightings of an unknown creature in the lake. In these he points out that it is understandable that many people looking out for ‘Nessie’ and watching a biggish object might have come across one of the otters frequently watched in the loch; one of them, a bigger female, was even given the name of Dratsie. According to Dr. Wills, these tourists might be utterly disappointed if they realized they just saw an otter.

Voc.: scrutiny: genaue Prüfung; hump: Buckel; distinctive: deutlich; to prowl: herumstreichen

Worksheet 5: Facts and fiction

Task 5: In a podcast (wdr Zeitzeichen) the story of Nessie is told to a German audience. Listen to the story in groups and make notes to write a **mediated** text* for your English school magazine.

„Als ich Nessie das erste Mal sah, fuhr ich gerade den Berg hoch. Da sah ich am Eingang zur Record-Bucht diese riesige Kreatur, schwarz, dunkelgrau, schlammgrün“, erinnert sich eine Augenzeugin. Das vermeintliche Seeungeheuer Nessie ist die Attraktion des schottischen Hochlandsees Loch Ness. Jährlich lockt es rund eine halbe Million Touristen an, die ins Wasser starren und hoffen, das Monster zu erblicken.

Der See ist tiefer als große Teile der Nordsee, an einigen Stellen bis zu 230 Meter. Gerade wegen seiner Tiefe verfügt der See über das mit Abstand größte Wasservolumen aller schottischen Seen. „Genug Platz also für ein paar Geheimnisse“, sagt Adrian Shine, Leiter des „Loch Ness Project“, das den knapp 40 Kilometer langen See seit Jahrzehnten erforscht. „Etwas Merkwürdiges geht hier vor. Sonst würden nicht über tausend Leute, die ich für ehrlich und vernünftig halte, behaupten, dass sie hier ein großes Wesen gesehen haben.“

Daniela Wakonigg: <http://www1.wdr.de/mediathek/audio/wdr2/wdr2-stichtag/audio--november--angeblich-erstes-foto-von-seeungeheuer-nessie-100.html> (last accessed July 2016)

Mediation

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

Task 6: Work in tandems on the youtube clip on “Scotland’s best tourist attraction” and **outline** in a list likely and unlikely findings. Two tandems, selected randomly, will then present their lists in plenary.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4JrXqJhdCF4>

likely findings	unlikely findings
.....
.....
.....
.....

Worksheet 6: The guest book

Task 7: After taking part in the **Seabirds-and-Seals boat excursions for tourists** (lead by Dr Wills), you have the opportunity to **write a comment** in the company’s guest book. In your comment you mention the reasons why you came to Loch Ness, what you expected to see and whether you liked it or were disappointed.

Seabirds-and-Seals boat trips Guest Book

Dear Dr. Wills,

Your boat trip, although the weather was a bit rough and visibility low, was

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

Worksheet 7: Loch Ness project – the wider significance



<https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/User:AdMeskens/Schottland?uselang=de/media/File:LochNess05.jpg>
© Ad Meskens

Task 8: Research details of this project on the internet and collect instances of how the Loch Ness Monster Story goes beyond tourist attractions and may even be helpful in preserving the environment.

Task 9: Evaluate how the Loch Ness project can contribute to the preservation of the environment:

.....

Task 10: Outline your favourite activities in the Loch Ness project in the following list.

My top-five-list of activities

- (1)
- (2)
- (3)
- (4)
- (5)

Task 11: In groups, please make use of pictures either used in the project itself or found in other sources. **Create posters** showing the story and tourist attractions of Loch Ness and present in plenary.

