



**BAL BHARATI PUBLIC SCHOOL, PITAMPURA, DELHI-110034**

**CLASS IV SUBJECT – ENGLISH (2020-21)**

**TOPIC- THE RIVER BANK**

**NAME \_\_\_\_\_ CLASS IV \_\_\_\_\_ DATE - 02/04/2020**

*‘Never stop learning; for when we stop learning, we stop growing.’*

To reinforce this thought, the school is sharing activities and lesson plans through this virtual platform to ensure that the children don't fall behind with the curriculum.

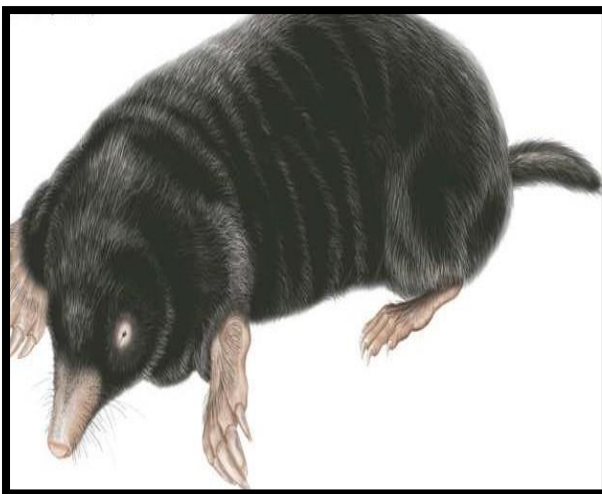
**STEP 1:** Watch a video based on **Chapter 1 (The River Bank)** of the book **‘The Wind in the Willows’** through the given link <https://youtu.be/-KqsUBGBD0>

**STEP 2:** Read the text **‘The River Bank’** in **My Canvas** and underline important words and ideas.

**STEP 3:** Revise the text through the following notes.

### INTRODUCTION

Children, we are all surrounded by various **animals**. Some of us even keep them as **pets** in our households. Animals not only provide us with useful things like **milk, eggs, wool** and so on but also prove to be our **loyal friends**. The lesson **‘The River Bank’** is an adaptation of the original story from the book, **‘The Wind in the Willows’**. The central characters of this famous novel by **Kenneth Graham** are a **mole** and a **water rat**. You can see the pictures of a mole and a water rat underneath.



**MOLE**



**WATER RAT**

**Now let's read the summary of the lesson to understand the text.**

### **SUMMARY OF THE LESSON**

The story opens during springtime, while the Mole is conducting his annual spring cleaning around his underground burrow home. Suddenly, he is struck by a feeling of tiredness and immediately tunnels his way out of the ground and up into the middle of a grass field.

He decides to explore his surroundings and enjoy the sunlight. He keeps travelling farther and farther away from home, across meadows and fields, until he finally reaches a wide river. Mole had never seen a river before, and is awe-struck by its depth and beauty.

Something on the opposite riverbank catches the Mole's eye, and he notices a small hole just above the waterline. He wonders about living in that hole, but then a Water Rat pops out. It has brown little face, with whiskers, small ears and thick silky hair. Being a friendly animal, the Water Rat brings his personal boat to the Mole, and invites him for a picnic on the river. Mole is excited, having never been in a boat, and joins the Water Rat down the stream. The Water Rat tells the Mole how much he loves spending time in his boat and is surprised to hear that this was the first time the Mole was sailing in one.

After the Mole unpacks the basket filled with pickled gherkins, French rolls, cress sandwiches, lemonade and soda water, they discuss life on the river, which the Water Rat loves above everything else. He considers the river as his brother, sister and world because he lives on it and is dependent on it for his food, drink and washing.

Then they come across a clearing. The Mole is curious to find out what is behind the woodland. The Water Rat tells him that it is the Wild Wood and home to many animals such as weasels, stoats and foxes. He tells the Mole that he doesn't go there often as he does not trust those animals.

The Mole having come out of his hole for the first time wants to explore further and asks what lies beyond the Wild Wood. The Water Rat warns the Mole that beyond the Wild Wood lays the Wide World. The Water Rat had never been there and nor did he wish to go there in the future. He also tells the Mole to be wise and not think about going into the Wide World ever.

### **VOCABULARY WORDS**

1. flung : throw, dump
2. snout : beak, nose
3. meadow : grassland
4. delighted : excited
5. cosy : warm and comfortable
6. considered: studied, examined
7. gazed : looked

8. forepaw : front leg
9. worth : value
10. messing about : to spend time doing things that are not serious
11. refer : to talk about
12. ecstasy : great happiness

**LET'S REVISE: MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS (Oral Practice)**

- 1. What had the Mole never seen before?**
  - (a) the sun
  - (b) a river
  - (c) a Water Rat
- 2. The Mole and the Water Rat went down the river in a \_\_\_\_\_.**
  - (a) basket
  - (b) ship
  - (c) boat
- 3. Which food item was the Water Rat not carrying in the boat?**
  - (a) French rolls
  - (b) French fries
  - (c) soda water
- 4. The Water Rat did not \_\_\_\_\_ the other animals in the Wild Wood.**
  - (a) trust
  - (b) like
  - (c) love
- 5. Where did the Mole live?**
  - (a) in a hole near the edge of the river
  - (b) in a hole under the ground
  - (c) in a hole in a tree trunk

## LIFESKILL ACTIVITY FOR THE DAY

### Being Grateful

Children, you all are aware that the world is facing a big problem at the moment called COVID-2019. At this testing hour, we should ensure to not focus on the negatives around us. We must make it a habit to thank God at the end of the day for all his blessings. We are fortunate to be healthy, surrounded by people we love and have enough food to maintain a healthy mind and body. So remember to be grateful and thank God each night before going to bed. I wish you all a very happy and safe extended family-time at home.

# 1 The River Bank

Work in groups of four. Imagine you went on a holiday to a place where you met people very different from you. Describe your experience.

- 🎧 The Mole had been working very hard all the morning, cleaning his little home, till he had dust in his throat and eyes, and splashes of whitewash all over his black fur.

Spring was moving in the air above and in the earth below and around him, penetrating even his dark and lowly little house. It was small wonder that he suddenly flung down his brush, said 'No more cleaning!' and made for the steep little tunnel which took him to the surface of the land. So he scraped and scratched and scabbled till at last, with a 'Pop!' his snout came out into the sunlight, and he found himself rolling in the warm grass of a great meadow.

He thought his happiness was complete when suddenly he stood by the edge of a full-fed river. Never in his life had he seen a river before, and the Mole was delighted. By the side of the river he trotted as one trots, when very small, by the side of a man who holds one fascinated with exciting stories; and when tired at last, he sat on the bank and looked across the river.

A dark hole in the bank opposite, just above the water's edge, caught his eye, and dreamily he considered what a nice and cosy dwelling place it would make for an animal with



few wants and fond of a riverside residence. As he gazed, something bright and small seemed to twinkle down in the heart of the hole, like a tiny star.

A brown little face, with whiskers, small neat ears and thick silky hair.

It was the Water Rat!

'Hullo, Mole!' said the Water Rat. 'Would you like to come over?'

The Rat, then, lightly stepped into a little boat, rowed smartly across and made fast. Then he held up his forepaw as the Mole stepped gingerly down and found himself actually seated in the stern of a real boat.



'Do you know,' said Mole, as the Rat shoved off, 'I've never been in a boat before in a my life?'

'What?' cried the Rat, open-mouthed. 'Believe me, my young friend, there is NOTHING—absolute nothing—half so much worth doing as simply messing about in boats. Simply messing. Look here! If you've really nothing else on hand this morning, we can drop down the river together, and spend a long day on it. I have pickled gherkins, salad, French rolls, cress sandwiches, lemonade, soda water...'

'O stop, stop,' cried the Mole in ecstasy. 'This is so new to me. So-this-is-a-River!'

'THE River,' corrected the Rat. 'I live on it and in it. It's brother and sister to me, and food and drink, and (naturally) washing. It's my world, and I don't want any other.'

'What lies over THERE?' asked the Mole, waving a paw towards a background of woodland.

'That? O, that's just the Wild Wood,' said the Rat shortly. 'We don't go there very much, we river-bankers. Weasels, stoats, foxes and so on live in the Wild Wood. They're all right in a way, but, well, you can't really trust them, and that's the fact.'

'And beyond the Wild Wood again?' asked Mole. 'Where it's all blue and dim, and one sees what may be hills or perhaps they may not be, and something like the smoke of towns, or is it only a cloud?'



'Beyond the Wild Wood comes the Wide World,' said the Rat. 'And that's something that doesn't matter, either to you or me. I've never been there, and I'm never going, nor will you, if you've got any sense at all. Don't ever refer to it again, please.'

## New Words

splashes	drops of any liquid
penetrating	coming through
steep	( <i>here, of the tunnel</i> ) rising suddenly
scraped	cleaned by rubbing with something sharp
scrabbled	moved hands and feet about quickly
trotted	moved with fast bouncy steps
fascinated	charmed
gingerly	carefully
stern	the back part of a ship
cress	eatable plant with leaves
weasels	a type of small flesh-eating animals
stoats	animals similar to the weasels
caught his eye	brought to his notice
in the heart of	at the centre of
made fast	( <i>here</i> ) moved quickly