

Poohsticks

Junior River Ranger Activity



A simple game of racing sticks under a bridge – or is it?

Everyone can play Poohsticks; from young to old. It is just a matter of dropping a stick from a bridge and waiting for it to come out the other side. But did you know, choosing the perfect Poohstick can be a scientific process?

Tips for choosing the 'Perfect Poohstick'

A perfect Poohstick is one that is easily pulled along by the flow of the river. There are 3 things to look out for when choosing a good Poohstick.

1

A rough surface

A rough surface means the stick will have more grip in the water so the water will be able to pull it along better. A smooth stick will not be dragged along by the water nearly as well.



2

A large surface area

A fat stick also helps the river to get a grip on it. The larger surface area means there is more to grip onto.

3

A heavy stick

A lightweight stick will just bob along on the surface of the water. By choosing one that is a bit heavier it will sink into faster moving water.



Finding the perfect Poohstick location is another challenge!



That's the scientific theory behind Poohsticks. Now, all you need to do is test it out!