In a built-up area (an urban landscape), a lot of rainwater rushes to the drains because it can’t soak into the ground - it is impermeable. So what features can we add to these areas to help capture rainwater? SuDS - which stands for sustainable drainage systems.

SuDS direct water from the roof or from paved surfaces to areas where it can soak in. So, for example, a downpipe that takes water from the roof might feed into a garden instead of the drains. This is called a rain garden. Below are some more examples of SuDS. Have a go at identifying each one. Draw lines to match the illustration to the name and photograph of each feature. One has been done for you.
SuDS don’t have to be boring. There are all sorts of ways you can make them more interesting and fun: add balance beams or stepping stones to a rain garden; make the downpipe rain into the box planter. You can add practical things like a seat. You could include colourful flowers, plants that smell or feel nice or ones you could eat. You could add wildlife features like a mini-beast log pile or a bug hotel. What would you include?

Task
Either cut out one of the templates below, stick it in the middle of a blank page and then turn it into something amazing or, draw your own. You can choose any of the SuDS featured on the previous page. Check out this website for ideas: www.wendyallendesigns.co.uk/