

Reservoir Safety - Teacher's Notes

Interactive Plenary Quiz

"Reservoirs are used by Scottish Water to provide storage for water before it is treated and made safe for you to use and drink. It is a high priority for Scottish Water that the water quality in our reservoirs is maintained at a standard high enough to make it possible to treat. In order to do this, special care must be taken to limit the amount of pollution entering the water environment. Scottish Water has a campaign called Take Care Be Aware which gives tips and advice on accessing its reservoirs. Reservoirs are manmade features and because of their purpose, they have a number of unique hidden dangers. These dangers relate mainly to built structures such as dams, spillways (overflows) and water intakes (underwater pipe work that takes water out of the reservoir) and the effects of these. For example, water intakes can cause dangerous down currents, underwater structures could cause you to injure yourself or you could even get stuck in an overflow pipe. For your own safety you should keep away from all man-made structures. Other hidden dangers found at reservoirs are similar to those that can be found at natural lochs and include deep cold water (even on a hot day), underwater plant life and steep banks".