

How a Canal Works ^[1]

Share it now!



^[2] Canals operate by a series of *locks* that raise and lower water levels. In this [animation](#) ^[2], the boat enters the lock from downstream, where the water level is lower. The gate shuts behind it, and water is allowed to flow in from upstream, raising the water level in the lock until the boat can move forward.

User Tags:

[canals](#) ^[3]

[North Carolina History](#) ^[4]

[Page](#) ^[5]

[Students](#) ^[6]

[Teachers](#) ^[7]

[technology](#) ^[8]

[transportation](#) ^[9]

[Creative Commons BY-NC-ND](#) ^[10]

From:

[LEARN NC North Carolina History: A Digital Textbook](#)^[11]

Copyright Date:

2009

3 January 2018

Source URL: <https://ncpedia.org/anchor/how-canal-works>

Links

[1] <https://ncpedia.org/anchor/how-canal-works>

[2] <https://ncpedia.org/media/video/canal-locks-animation>

[3] <https://ncpedia.org/category/user-tags/canals>

[4] <https://ncpedia.org/category/user-tags/north-carolina-6>

[5] <https://ncpedia.org/category/user-tags/page>

[6] <https://ncpedia.org/category/user-tags/students>

[7] <https://ncpedia.org/category/user-tags/teachers>

[8] <https://ncpedia.org/category/user-tags/technology>

[9] <https://ncpedia.org/category/user-tags/transportation>

[10] <https://ncpedia.org/category/user-tags/creative-0>

[11] <https://ncpedia.org/category/entry-source/learn-nc>