

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/school-radio/history-victorian-railways/zb8dcqt>

This week we
will look at how
the railways
changed
people's lives.

Where is the nearest station
to our school and where can
you catch a train to?



Watch, and ACTIVE listen...

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p0114hrr>



At the end of this lesson you will:

Describe the first train journey.

Explain some things that changed because of railways.

Decide if the railways were a good thing or a bad thing for ordinary people.

What were the effects of the railways?

News and communicating

Daily Life

Economy (Money, jobs)

Free time

Activity 1

Write in your book:

3 reasons that the railways were a good thing for ordinary people.

2 things people were worried about.

The year in which it all started.

Activity 2

Read Victorian railways -

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/school-radio/history-victorian-railways/zb8dcqt>

Question to focus on

What are the most important achievements of George Stevenson?
(Make a note in your book of all the things George Stevenson achieved.)

(Answers: Engineer, inventor, 'father' of the locomotive, lamps that work underwater, iron horses - trains.)

Continue reading Without Equal (approx 3 mins)

Before reading: Rainhill Trials 1829. When new tracks were being laid down between Liverpool and Manchester there were several ideas about how locomotives should be built. A contest was held between different inventors to determine who could build the best locomotive.

Activity 3

In your book sketch what you imagine a steam locomotive might look like.

Top Tip: Think how wheels are connected to metal bars which lead to 'cylinders' that fill with steam to turn the wheels.

Activity 4:

Draw railway locomotive and some carriages being pulled along a section of track.

Write labels on your drawing to point out three features:

- **The Locomotive or Engine** – The part of the train that pulls the carriages along. Its wheels are connected to ‘cylinders’ that are filled with steam to power the train.
- **Carriages** – The parts of the train that carry passengers.
- **A bridge** – Bridges were mostly built out of iron bars or girders. The part of the bridge that carries a train track or road is called the ‘span.’ The bridge will be supported by stone or iron towers called ‘pylons.’

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Oyay-n23JNA>

Activity 5:

In your book answer the question:

Do you think the railways are a good thing or a bad thing?

I think that the railways are good because...

However, I also think they are bad because...

Overall I think they are _____ because of the main reason that...

Challenge:

Draw a suspension bridge of your own and label the pylons, the span and the arch, if your bridge uses one.

Bridges were built in many ways during the Victorian era. The span of the bridge could be supported by a box of steel girders or hung on strong cables from pylons or an arch of supporting girders.

Top Tip: Search online to find examples of suspension bridges.

- <https://tv.historyhit.com/watch/24535431>

<https://www.historyextra.com/period/victorian/8-ways-railway-travel-changed-everything-for-britain/>

