

Year 2	History Knowledge Organiser
George Stephenson and the Development of Railways	Who was 'the father of the railways' and was he all that significant?
Links to other year groups: Year 4: Viking longboats Year 6/8 Victorian Britain/Industrial Revolution.	

HISTORICAL CONTEXT (within the whole school narrative)



Key Vocabulary:

- Significant-** Something of importance.
- Development-** The process of making change or helping something to grow.
- Achievement-** Something done successfully with effort, skill, or courage.
- Impact-** The effect or influence that something has on someone or something.
- Local-** Something/someone from our area or close by.
- National-** A country, especially when thought of as a large group of people living in one area.
- International-** Involving more than one country.
- Locomotive-** Moving engine'. A vehicle that moves using its own power.
- Nationalised-** Under the government's control and management.
- Railroad** - An old term for railway.
- Privatised**—Run by individual, private companies.

Significant People:

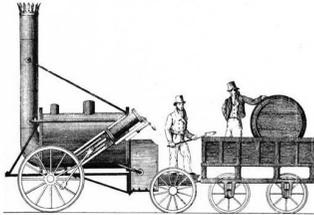
George Stephenson

George Stephenson 'The Father of the Railway', was an engineer who built steam locomotives for the first ever railways. He lived in the time of the Industrial Revolution, when Britain was changing to a land of big factories instead of farms.



The most famous George Stephenson invention was the 'Rocket' - a ground-breaking railway steam engine in terms of speed and design. The Rocket provided the model for future mainline locomotives.

The Rocket was entered for the Rainhill trials in 1829, which were to find the best model of a locomotive to carry passengers on the future Liverpool to Manchester railway. It completed its trial runs at an average speed of 15 miles per hour, then reached an astounding (for its time) speed of around 30 miles per hour. It has become a proud symbol of Britain's industrial heritage.



Stephenson's Rocket beat four other entrants on the criteria of weight, speed, power and reliability. George Stephenson won a prize of £500 for the Rocket's performance.

Timeline of Events:

- 9 June 1781**—George Stephenson is born in Northumberland
- C1791**—Stephenson starts work at the mine
- C1795**— He becomes an assistant fire-man
- 1802**—Stephenson marries Frances Henderson
- 1803**—Robert Stephenson is born
- 1814**—Stephenson builds his first locomotive, 'Blucher'
- 1815**—Stephenson invents a mining lamp
- 1819**—First Railway at Hetton Colliery
- 1823**—Stephenson opens his locomotive factory in Newcastle
- 27th September 1825**—First journey of locomotion No1 on the Stockton to Darlington Line
- 1829**—The Rainhill trials; 'Rocket' proves its superiority over other engines
- 15 September 1830**—The Manchester to Liverpool Railway opens; William Huskisson MP run over and killed by Rocket
- 1838**—London to Birmingham Railway completed
- 12 August 1848**—Death of George Stephenson

Sequence of Lessons	
	Brief summary of lesson content
Lesson 1	Chronology and Vocabulary
Lesson 2	Using chronological vocabulary with a timeline
Lesson 3	Who was George Stephenson?
Lesson 4	When was George Stephenson alive?
Lesson 5	What did George Stephenson do?
Lesson 6	Stephenson's Rocket
Lesson 7	Changes in railways and trains
Lesson 8	Stephenson's impact locally and nationally
Lesson 9	Was George Stephenson all that significant?