

HISTORY Key Stage 1

QCA Unit 4 – Year 2

Why do we remember George Stephenson?

This day programme of activities based at Derbyshire Urban Studies Centre looks at the life of George Stephenson, a famous person, who lived and died in Chesterfield. He was known as the Father of the Railways and after building the Midland Railway through Chesterfield, he established the Clay Cross Company and settled here at Tapton House. He died in Chesterfield and is buried at Trinity Church. There are many memorials to this important engineer in the town. This study develops the knowledge, skills and understanding of life of a significant man, an engineer and inventor, drawn from the history of Britain.

It will involve a range of classroom and fieldwork activities as well as site visits in the town centre.

The children will learn the reason George Stephenson came to be associated with Chesterfield and something about how this work affected the lives of men and women and the prosperity of the nation. They will use a variety of source material, including photographs and pictures, maps, accounts and artefacts to find out about George Stephenson and his life and death in Chesterfield.

It would be helpful if this background information was not shared with the children before the visit – as this will be the focus of their investigations. Thank you.

The day will not include any investigations into the ‘Rocket’.

Why do we remember George Stephenson?

PROGRAMME

- 9.30 Welcome and introduction
Key Question
What can we find out about George Stephenson by visiting the museum?
Activities
A range of classroom activities designed to prepare the children for our visit to the museum to carry out research into why George Stephenson came to live and work in Chesterfield.
- 10.30 Break in the classroom – please bring a drink and a snack. Play time activities will be provided.
- 10.50 **Key Question**
What can we find out about George Stephenson’s life in Chesterfield?
Activities
Fieldwork visit to Chesterfield museum and the Midland Railway Station.
- 12.00 Lunch – please bring your own packed lunch to eat in the classroom
- 12.40 **Key Question**
How is George Stephenson remembered in Chesterfield?
Activities
Fieldwork visits to key sites in the town centre where George Stephenson is remembered.
- 2.30 Leave
- Please make sure that the children and adult helpers are dressed appropriately for the weather
 - We will carry out fieldwork regardless of the weather!
 - **This day programme involves quite a lot of walking to visit various sites in the town**