

Milestone Project – The Highwayman

Teacher Notes – Upper Key Stage 2

Session 7-8 – How Times Change

Core Curriculum Areas : History, Literacy, Music

Main Objectives

History

To study a period over time tracing how several aspects of national history are reflected in the locality

Literacy

To prepare poems and plays to read aloud and to perform, showing understanding through intonation, tone and volume so that the meaning is clear to an audience. To draft and write by selecting appropriate grammar and vocabulary, understanding how such choices can change and enhance meaning perform their own compositions, using appropriate intonation, volume, and movement so that meaning is clear.

Maths

Pupils reason mathematically by following a line of enquiry, using mathematical language

Pupils can solve problems by applying their mathematics to a variety of routine and non-routine problems with increasing sophistication

Cross Curricular Links

Computer Technology, Music,

Preparation / Resources

PPT of travel & transport

Images of famous highway people

Paper

Pens

Access to computer / internet

Metre stick or trundle wheel

Musical instruments

Introduction

Teacher explains that life was very different around the 17th and 18th Century. The class have explored the changes to the land and also the different ways that people moved around from one place to the other. The Highwayman in the video explained the journeys he has made and the amount of time it took him to get around.

Teacher asks class why it took so long to travel from one place to another.

Class consider the state of the roads and the land in the times of highway travel.

Teacher introduces timeline dating from the first 'road atlas' 1670's and explains that the way roads were being used was constantly changing, tracking key events including Mail Coach service, Turnpike tolls, the introduction of rail travel.

Class discuss different place names e.g. Gallows Gate, Gibbet Hill, Market Place, Turnpike Lane and how the names came about. Are any of the names still used today? Explore how the names came about. What do they think happened in those places?

Teacher focusses on Gallows Gate / Gibbet Hill – explaining that many highwaymen met the end of their lives here having been caught and convicted of highway robbery.

Teacher tells class about some famous highwaymen and how they met their fate eg Claude Duval, Dick Turpin, Lady Mary Frith and John 'Swift Nicks' Nevison

Main Activities - Group Work

Group A

Look at a modern map or satellite image on Google Earth. Are there any street names that have a meaning that is easily identified because of what happens there?

Children draw their own map and invent some new street names based on modern day activity and explain the meaning of the new roads and where they sit on their map.

Children present their map to the class and see if the class can guess what activities happen on those streets based on the new street names they have chosen.

Group B

Look at the PPT about highway robbers

Discuss the fate of most highwaymen and how most died before the age of 30

Talk about how they would be feeling once caught

Write an account / poem or ballad of a highwayman awaiting his fate at gallows gate

Use musical instruments to create the atmosphere

Play / perform this to the whole class

Group C

Use the internet to research key facts about one of the famous highway people

Prepare a fact file or PPT presentation of them

Imagine that you are one of the highway robbers, write about your life and how it feels to travel the country taking valuables from unsuspecting victims. Describe your life to the whole class

Additional Optional Activity

Teacher introduces class to the timeline PPT and class discuss the action points outlined on the slides.

Group D

Take a metre stick out to the playground and measure the distance from the playground entrance to the fence

Convert the distance to yards

Choose some other points within the school to measure and convert this to yards too

Talk about modern road signs with distances in miles and yards

Discuss transport through the ages

Design a futuristic form of transport