Workshop: Local History of the North East

National Curriculum Links

Upper KS2 History/Local History- A study over time tracing how several aspects of national history are reflected in the locality; A study of an aspect of history dating from a period beyond 1066 that is significant in the locality- specifically looking at development of the railways, waggonways and coal mining in the North East.

Learning objectives	Session structure	Assessment for learning
To understand how the railways developed in the North East and why George Stephenson was so significant in this development To work in groups to use a range of historical evidence to create a mini exhibition on a topic linked to North East History	Introduction Start by exploring what coal is and what it was used for. Introduce children to who George Stephenson was and show animation of Killingworth Billy to explain how it worked. Session activities Show children Killingworth Billy in the museum and briefly explain to them the story of George Stephenson and why he is seen as so significant. Children to explore the museum in pairs or small groups to investigate the different engines we have in our collection and to find out what they were used for, when they were built, what kind of power they were used for and how they are different to Killingworth Billy. Explain to children how railways first developed in the North East through showing them an image of the waggonways and animation of how they worked. Children to work in groups to explore different objects, photographic evidence and information in the museum to create their own mini exhibition using key questions as prompts. Plenary	Children will explore themes through museum exploration, object handling and watching videos- we will ask questions throughout to check understanding. Children will work in groups to create their own mini exhibition- they will need to be able to develop an understanding of what their objects are through exploring the museum to find answers to questions and looking at photographic evidence. Children will have opportunities to respond and give feedback throughout the session.

	Children to share in groups information on what they would include in their exhibition on their topic area.	
Before your visit	After your visit	Key vocabulary
Make a free teacher pre visit to familiarise yourself with the site- contact learning@stephensonsteamrailway.org.uk Visit our website for teacher notes and background information- Teachers Notes and Background Infomation Stephenson Steam Railway Borrow a Local History themed Box of Delight e.g. George and Robert Stephenson or Coal Mining. Loans boxes Tyne & Wear Schools (twamschools.org.uk)	Put on display the mini exhibition of each group and ask each group to explain to others the significance of their topic to the history of the North East.	Coal, Great North Coalfield. Steam locomotive, George Stephenson, Engineer, Killingworth Billy. Blucher, Rainhill Trials, Rocket. Train driver, Fireman. Cab, Firebox, Water Tank, Chimney, Cylinders, Pistons, Connecting rods, Wheels. Waggonways, coal mines.