



Essex Steam Train & Riverboat

Field Trip Lesson Plan

Sr. High World History



AIMS

Before Trip: How did inventions provide the momentum behind the industrial revolution?

After Trip: How did industrial revolution inventions have a profound effect on society?

DO NOWS

Before Trip: Describe five industrial revolution inventions and how they are still a part of your life.

After Trip: Describe the experience of traveling on a steam train.

MOTIVATIONS

Before Trip: In many ways, steam powered the Industrial Revolution. Today you will learn about it, and tomorrow you will *experience* it!

After Trip: Every invention has its pros and cons. Steam power is no exception.

ACTIVITIES

Before Trip:

1. Introduce students to inventions of the Industrial Revolution.
2. Break students into small groups and have students create advertisements for 'their' new invention, including the steam locomotive. Have each group present to the class.

After Trip:

1. Discuss the impact of technology on society, both positive and negative, focusing on steam-powered railroads. Students will be able to use their field-trip experiences to accurately describe travel on a steam train.

QUESTIONS

Before Trip:

1. How did inventions change society?
2. Why were new inventions very appealing to businessmen and workers?

After Trip:

1. What were some positive and negatives effects of rail travel?
2. How did railroads affect transportation and trade?
3. How do railroad fireman exemplify industrial revolution labor?

SUMMARY

Before Trip: Inventions were at the very heart of the Industrial Revolution.

After Trip: There were many pros and some cons associated with the modern railroad technology of the industrial revolution.

ADDITIONAL LESSONS

1. Railroads and Cultural Diffusion
2. Lives of Railroad Workers in the Industrial Era
3. Formation of Unions

Sr. High World History

Date: _____

Name: _____

Field Trip

STEAM

THE POWER BEHIND THE INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION



YOUR ASSIGNMENT: *During your study of the Industrial Revolution, you learned that steam power was invented, and transformed the world in which we live. Today, you can experience that steam power. While the locomotive pulling the train today is from the 1920s, it uses the same principles perfected during the Industrial Revolution.*

1. Describe your initial reaction to seeing a steam locomotive. How would somebody in 1800s react to seeing such a machine?
2. Steam locomotives are often called 'living machines.' Explain the meaning of this phrase.
3. How did steam trains revolutionize travel?
4. In the steam locomotive, there is an engineer running the locomotive, and a fireman shoveling several tons of coal into a fire of over 2000 degrees Fahrenheit. Describe the working conditions on a steam locomotive.

5. Before railroads were invented and perfected, travel was often by foot, wagon, or boat. Compare your riverboat and steam train rides. What are some advantages and disadvantages of each type of transportation. Which one do you feel is superior and why?

USING PRIMARY SOURCES: Analyze the following quote by Matthew Boulton, the business partner of James Watt, who improved the steam engine. Boulton was addressing the King of England, and said:

**“Your Majesty, I have at my disposal what the whole world demands, something which will uplift civilization more than ever by relieving man of all undignified drudgery.
I have *steam power.*”**

