

Dear Parents,

Our next topic is called 'Travel and Transport.' Please help your children to prepare for this topic by helping them to learn some of the key words (in purple) and the facts on this sheet.

There are some homework activities on the back of this sheet. Your child can complete these at any time. Your child's teacher would love to see what they have created.

Thank you for your support.

Kind regards,

Year 2 teachers

Travel and Transport



Year 2 - Geography/History Topic 1



Canals



Leonardo da Vinci (1452-1519)



Leonardo da Vinci was an Italian designer and painter. He designed the world's first helicopter, flying machine, car, tank and submarine. These were never built though.



Canals are waterways made by humans. Narrowboats and barges were used to transport goods.

Birmingham needed canals to move the heavy goods it made to other parts of the country and to ports, so they could be sold all around the world.

Birmingham has the most miles of canals in the Great Britain (35 miles).

Useful Words

barge - A long boat used for carrying goods on canals or rivers.

canal - A human made waterway used by boats or ships to move inland.

goods - Things that are made in factories.

invented - To invent, to create the first of something e.g. the first car.

lifeboat - A small boat kept on ships to use in an emergency.

maiden voyage - The first time a ship sails.

Spaghetti Junction - A place near Birmingham where many roads and a motorway meet and cross over and under one another.

transport - moving people or things from one place to another.

vehicles - a thing used for transporting people or goods.

The First Transport

The first transport was walking.

Around 4000 BC, human learnt to domesticate animals and to use them for transport like horses and donkeys.



The History of Flight

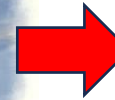
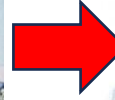
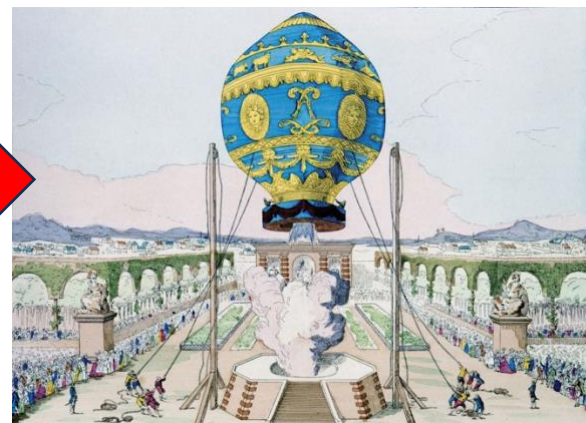
Leonardo da Vinci studied flight in the 1480's. He made over 100 drawings. None of these were ever built.

Two brothers, Joseph and Jacques Montgolfier **invented** the first hot air balloon in 1783. The first passengers were a sheep, a rooster and a duck!

The Wright Brothers (Wilbur and Orville) designed and flew the first aeroplane in 1903. It flew for 12 seconds! The Wright brothers were American.

Wernher von Braun and Walter Dornberger (from Germany) **invented** and launched the first rocket into space in 1944.

The Russians put the first man in space in 1961. His name was Yuri Gagarin.



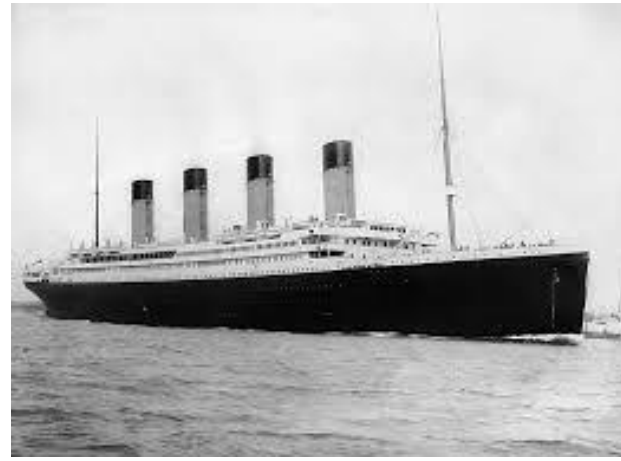
Capacity: 3537 passengers plus crew.

Weight: 46, 328 tons

Length: 269 metres

Fuel: 825 tons of coal a day

Top Speed: 23 knots



The Titanic was captained by Edward Smith, born in Hanley, Stoke-on-trent. It is rumoured that he planned to retire after the voyage.

The RMS Titanic was owned by the British White Star Line.



The RMS Titanic was built by Harland and Wolff in Belfast (Northern Ireland).

The RMS Titanic

The RMS Titanic was the largest and finest ship of its time.

The Titanic only carried 20 **lifeboats**, which was enough for only half of the passengers.

The ship was said to be unsinkable. It however sank on its **maiden voyage** from Southampton to New York when it hit an iceberg on 15th April 1912.

More than 1,500 people died when the RMS Titanic sank.

The wreck of the RMS Titanic was only found in 1985

The First Car

Leonardo da Vinci (an Italian) sketched the first horseless cart, but it was never built.

Karl Benz (a German designer and Engineer) **invented** the first petrol driven car in 1886.

It only had three wheels.



A photo of Karl Benz and his first car.



The Gravelly Hill Interchange (Spaghetti Junction)



Spaghetti Junction opened on 24th May 1972. It was built near Birmingham, and it links the M6 motorway with several other important roads. Today, over 200,000 cars use this junction each day.

Homework Ideas

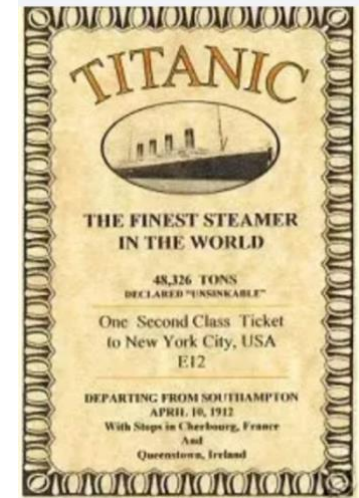
- Make model of either:
 - The first car;
 - The Mongolfier hot air balloon.
 - The Wright Brothers plane;
 - The Titanic;
 - A canal barge;
 - A rocket.



MONTGOLFIER Hot Air Balloon Craft



- Draw a picture of either:
 - Captain Edward Smith;
 - The Wright brothers;
 - Leonardo da Vinci;
 - Karl Benz.
- Design a passenger ticket for the voyage of the Titanic.
- Design and label your own vehicle.



- Present some research about a pioneer flyer such as Amy Johnson or Emilia Earhart.

