

### Know your vocabulary

**diesel** Diesel is a type of petrol that is used to make some engines work. For example, diesel can be used to make car engines work.

**electricity** Electricity is a form of energy. Energy from electricity can be used to make light and heat, or to make an engine work. Electricity can be stored and used when needed.

**engines** An engine is a machine that makes power so that we can do things such as move, lift things or cut things. Cars, vacuum cleaners and lawn mowers all have engines.

**iron ore** Iron ore is rock that has pieces of metal called iron in it. The iron in the rock can be taken out and used to make things such as nails, cars and computers.

**magnets** A magnet is a piece of metal that pulls other metals towards it and sticks to them.

**passenger** A passenger is a person who travels in a vehicle such as a car, bus, train, boat or aeroplane. A train that carries people from one place to another is a passenger train.

**railroad track** The metal rails that a train travels on are called a railroad track. The train's wheels fit on the tracks and help the train move smoothly along.

**steam** When water gets very, very hot, it turns into a gas or vapour. We cannot see this gas or vapour, but when it meets cold air it turns into water droplets. The water droplets are what we call steam.



electricity generators



a train's engine



This train runs on magnets.



steam from a kettle

### Strategy

When I am monitoring and clarifying, I ask:

★ Does what I have read make sense? Do I understand it?

If the answer is yes:

★ I keep on reading.

If the answer is no:

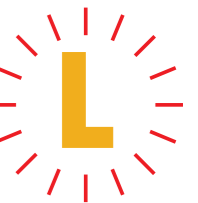
- ★ I re-read slowly and think about what I know already;
- ★ I ask myself questions;
- ★ I read on and think about what would make sense;
- ★ I check a dictionary, a thesaurus, a map or a website;
- ★ I ask a friend or a teacher.



### Learning goals

I am learning to monitor and clarify as I read to help me understand the text. I will be successful when I can:

- ★ Recognise when I do not understand what I am reading;
- ★ Identify what I don't understand and explain what is making me confused;
- ★ Clarify my understanding by re-reading slowly, figuring out what would make sense, checking a reference or asking for help.



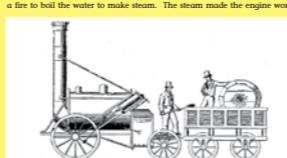


### What were the first trains like?

**What were the first trains like?**

Many people travel by train every day. Trains have engines that use diesel, electricity, or magnets to make them move. It is easy to travel by train today, but it wasn't always like this. The first trains were driven by steam and were used to pull heavy loads. Steam trains had big water tanks and a fire to boil the water to make steam. The steam made the engine work.

**The first railroad tracks**  
Trains cannot go up or down steep hills, so bridges and tunnels were needed for the railroad tracks. The first railroad track to go across the United States was very difficult to build. People cut tunnels through the mountains and built high bridges.

These trains were not very fast and didn't travel very far, but they were good for moving heavy things such as iron ore. Soon trains were moving people, too. The first passenger train took 600 people along a railroad track. It took more than three hours to cover 20 kilometres.

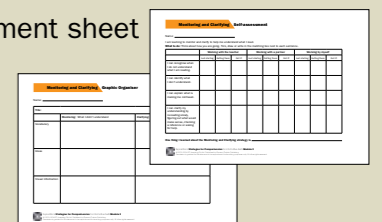
*What were the first trains like?* is a report about the first trains. What do you already know about trains?

### What to do:

- 1 Open your card, read the title and look at the pictures.
- 2 Read the text in order. After you have read each part of the text, ask yourself the questions in the box and then fill in your Graphic Organiser.
- 3 When you have finished, fill in your Self-assessment sheet.

You will need the Monitoring and Clarifying:

- Graphic Organiser
- Self-assessment sheet



Think about each highlighted word. If you need to, turn to the back of the card and check the meanings of the words.

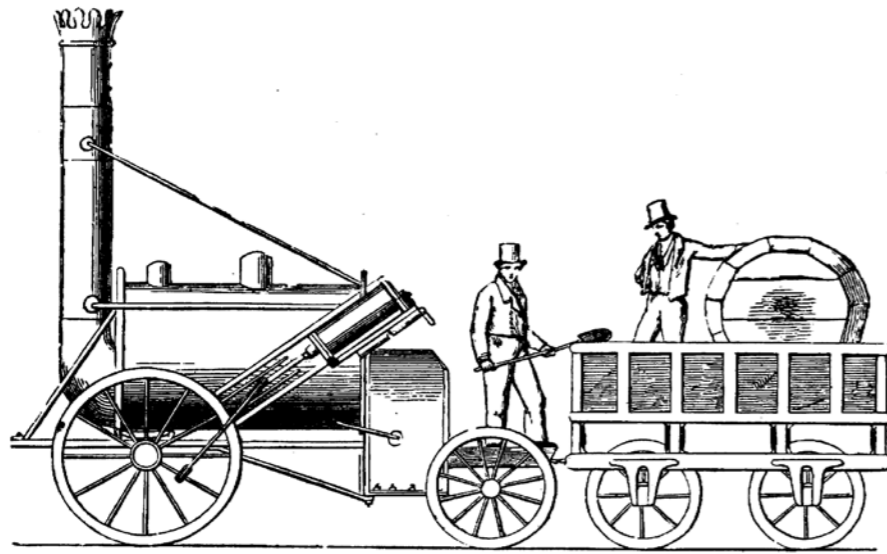
3. Read the Learning goals again.

How are you going so far?

Let your teacher know if you are having any problems. If you don't have any problems, keep reading.

# What were the first trains like?

Many people travel by train every day. Trains have **engines** that use **diesel**, **electricity** or **magnets** to make them move. It is easy to travel by train today, but it wasn't always like this. The first trains were driven by **steam** and were used to pull heavy loads. Steam trains had big water tanks and a fire to boil the water to make steam. The steam made the engine work.



1. Which parts did you not understand in the first paragraph? What did you do to understand them?

Start to fill in your Graphic Organiser.

## The first railroad tracks

Trains cannot go up or down steep hills, so bridges and tunnels were needed for the railroad tracks. The first railroad track to go across the United States was very difficult to build. People cut tunnels through the mountains and built high bridges.



4. Which parts did you not understand in the last paragraph? What did you do to understand them? Add to your Graphic Organiser.



one of the first steam trains

These trains were not very fast and didn't travel very far, but they were good for moving heavy things such as **iron ore**.

Soon trains were moving people, too. The first **passenger** train took 600 people along a **railroad track**. It took more than three hours to cover 20 kilometres.

2. What words or ideas did you not understand in these two paragraphs? What did you do to understand them?

Add to your Graphic Organiser.

