






Year 2 History Knowledge Organiser Summer 2
History of Our Canals and locks in Leicestershire

Knowledge

Cause and consequence	 KNOWLEDGE	Why were canals built? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Canals were needed for the Industrial Revolution which was creating large amounts of heavy goods which had to be moved.
Historical enquiry	 KNOWLEDGE	How were canals built? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Navvies moved enormous amounts of earth, cutting out channels for the canals. It was a momentous task and they mostly used pretty basic tools (e.g. shovels, picks and wheelbarrows). They also used gunpowder to blast into solid rock!
Historical evidence	 KNOWLEDGE	How were boats powered before engines were invented? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Giant shire horses plodded along the towpaths at the side of the canals, towing their laden narrow boats behind them
Historical significance	 KNOWLEDGE	Why are Foxton Locks famous? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Foxton Locks is a landmark location on England's waterways It is famous for its flight of locks and is the site of the Foxton Inclined Plane
Chronological understanding	 KNOWLEDGE	How has Foxton Locks changed over time? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Although no longer used in the same way, the locks still bear a striking resemblance to the way they looked 200 years ago The canal and rivers trust work very hard to preserve it so that we can continue to learn about life on canals in the past.

Key Vocabulary

Navvies	Men who built canals were known as navigators. Over time this was shortened to 'navvies' and that's what we still call them today. It was hard physical work. Navvies were tough, strong men
Tow path	A towpath is a road or trail on the bank of a river, canal or other inland waterway.
Lock	A lock is a device used for raising and lowering boats. Unlike rivers canal could go up and down.
Barge	Long flat bottomed boat carrying freight on canals, either under its own power or towed.
Narrow boat	A boat used for travelling on the narrow canals
Freight	Goods carried by boat or by vehicle:

Timeline

1700s	1790	1840	1900	1989
The Great Age of canal building began in Britain.	'Canal Mania' began those who had money invested it into canal projects	4500 miles of canals in Britain	Better roads for carriages and trains seemed to have taken over the role of canal	Foxton Canal museum opened



Shire horse



Navvies



Bottom of Foxton Locks