

**How and why has transport  
changed over time?**

Our enquiry question today is:

**Why is George Stephenson a  
significant person?**





George Stephenson was a **significant person** (an important person) in history.

**What job do you think this man had?**

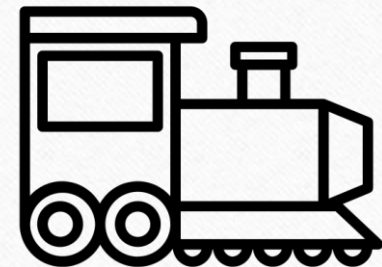
Pause the video and write your idea down in your home learning book

George Stephenson was an **engineer** and built the first **steam locomotive**.

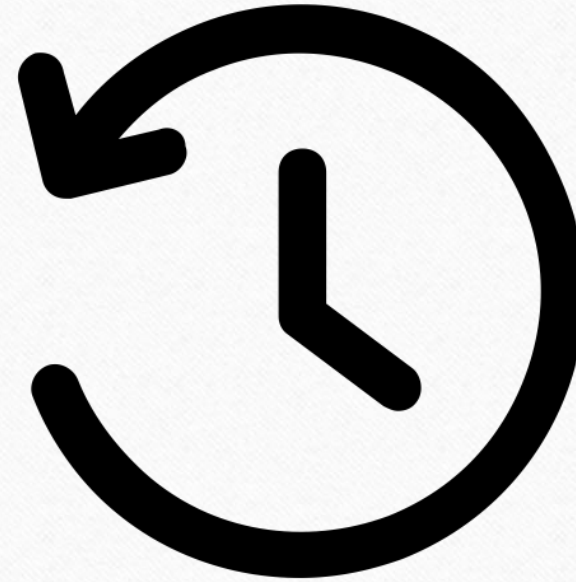


**engineer** - a person who designs, builds, or maintains engines, machines, or structures.

**locomotive** - a powered railway vehicle used for pulling trains.





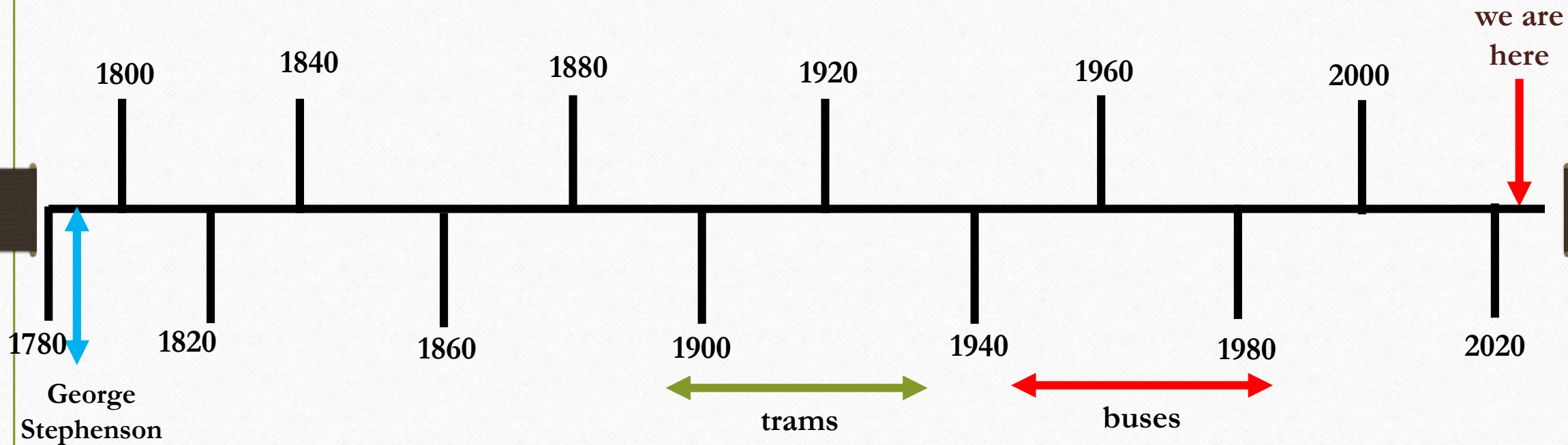


Lets be a *historian* to find out more about George Stephenson ....  
We need to get into our year 2 time machine again!

play me and spin around so we can go back in time!



# Our Timeline so far...





- George Stephenson was born on **9<sup>th</sup> June 1781** in Northumberland in the UK.
- His father worked in the coalmine and so did George.
- When George Stephenson was younger he was interested in machinery and how it worked.

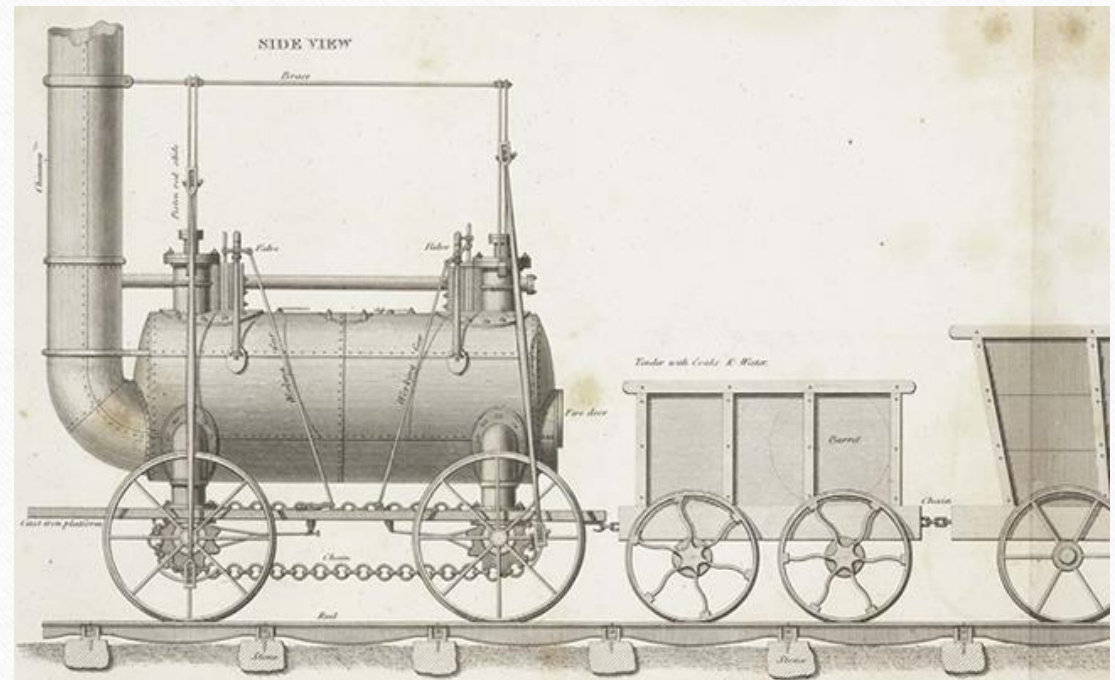


# The First Steam Railway Locomotive

In **1814**, George built a locomotive – a vehicle to run on a railway.

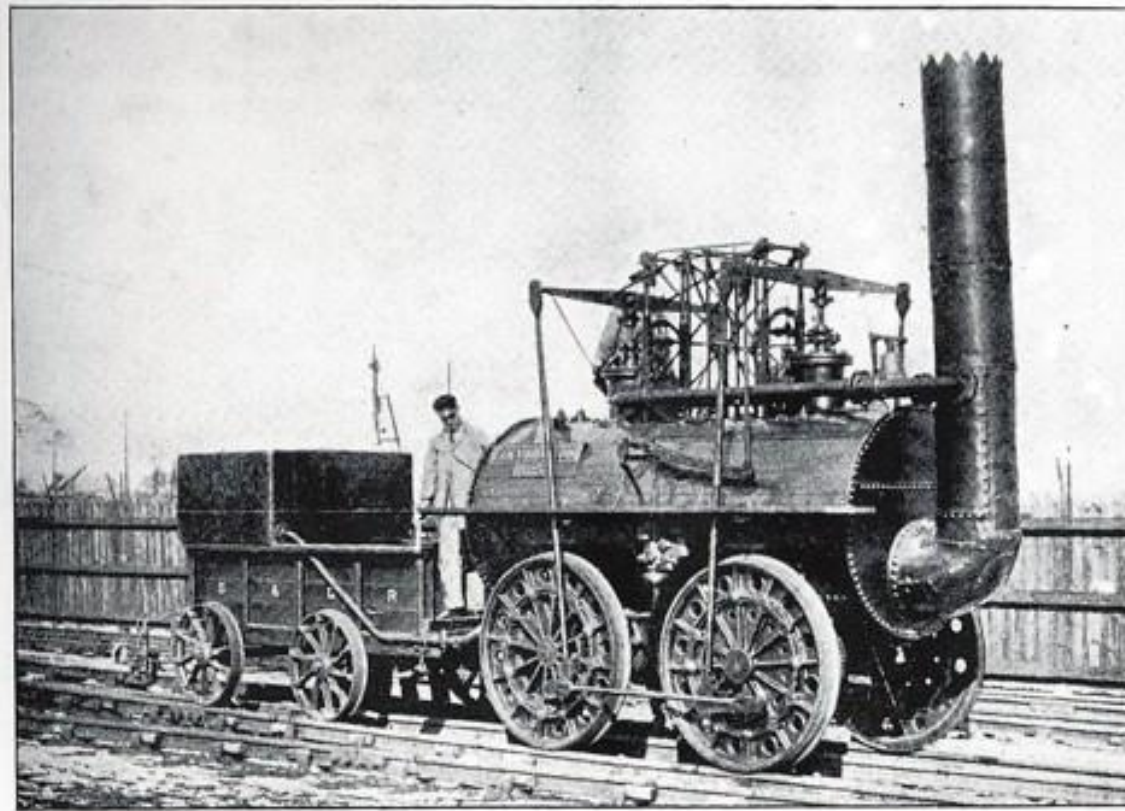
He named it the 'Blücher' and it was used to transport coal.

This could travel at four miles per hour.





Lets have a look at what one of the locomotives would have looked like in the *past* with a more *recent* video...



- What did you notice?
  - How did it work?
  - Are you surprised?



In the 19<sup>th</sup> century when  
George was an engineer,  
**industrialisation** was  
happening.

Lets have a quick look at what  
**industrialisation** is...

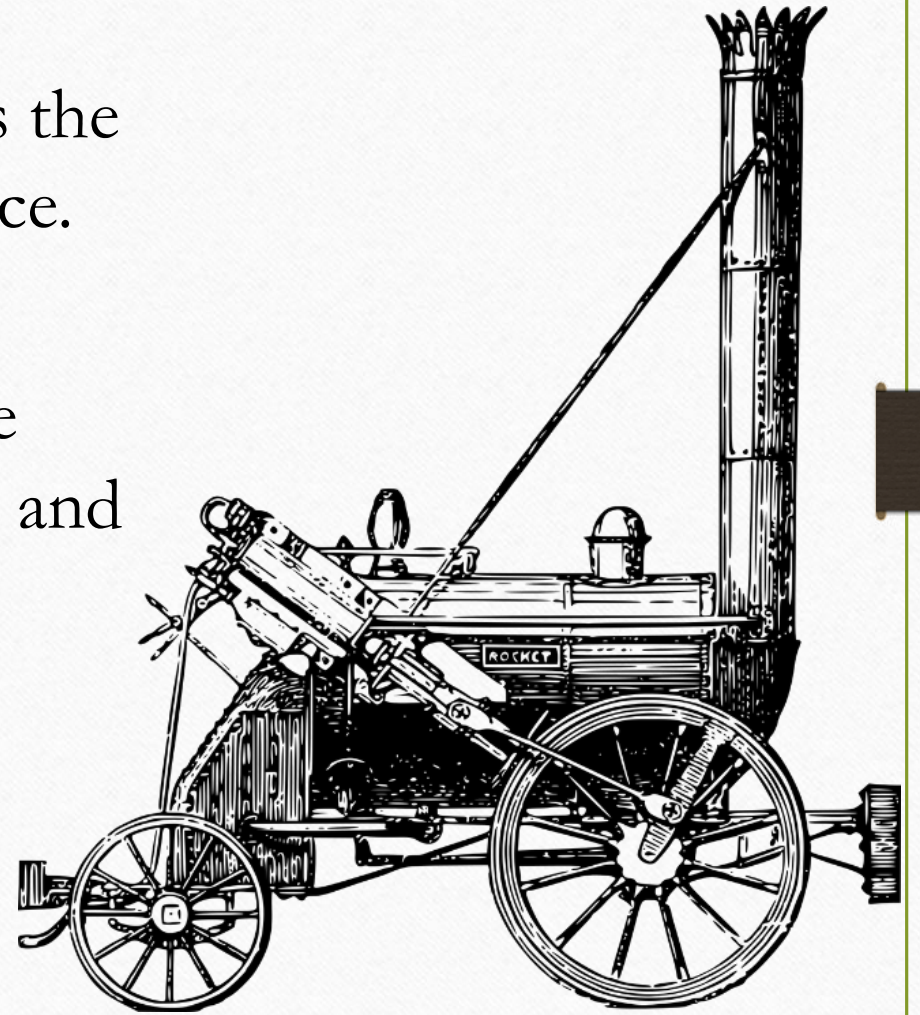


# The Rocket

In October **1829**, the railway's owners held a competition to find out which locomotive was the best for pulling heavy loads over a long distance. The prize was £500.

George Stephenson was racing the locomotive named the '**Rocket**' which had been designed and built by his son, Robert.

There were five locomotives in the competition but the **Rocket** was the clear winner, managing to get up to a speed of 30mph.





# Legacy

The Rocket was so successful it proved that railways could be very useful for business and people. This led to railways being built all over the country.



George is **significant** because he was the engineer on most of these new railways around the UK.

# The First Public Railway

George is **significant** because he improved the steam system engines which increased the pulling power of the engine. In 1825, George Stephenson opened the first railway for passengers. It could carry more than 450 people and travelled at 15mph.



Opening Day of the Stockton to  
Darlington Railway by Ron  
Embleton



George Stephenson died on 12<sup>th</sup> August 1848 in Chesterfield. His work left an important legacy which continues to this day.



# Interesting Facts

George Stephenson was known as  
**‘The Father of railways’**.

George Stephenson built the **first** public railway to use steam trains.

George Stephenson also designed bridges to help the trains transport goods and people.



## **Task -**

In your home learning books/ A4 paper create a poster about George Stephenson.

### **Your check list-**

- ☐ Date of birth
- ☐ Date of death
- ☐ A minimum of 2 interesting facts
- ☐ A picture/drawing of George Stephenson
- ☐ Why is George Stephenson a significant person?

**Use this video to help and you can follow the format  
example on the next slide**

# George Stephenson



Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_



Date of Death: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ is significant because \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



A picture of  
George Stephenson



Interesting Fact

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_





Explore this website if you want to find out more facts  
about **The Rocket** !

[www.scienceandindustrymuseum.org.uk/what-was-on/stephensons-rocket](http://www.scienceandindustrymuseum.org.uk/what-was-on/stephensons-rocket)

Did you find any extra facts about the rocket?

**Good Luck!**