**Richard Trevithick - some thoughts on the person**

Below is a list of activities to accompany the Richard Trevithick animation. These are designed to be adapted and used in a flexible way to match the needs of the class.

**NB -** *In these suggested activities we have not avoided using long words and difficult concepts. It is important to explain them and use them in context. In this way both vocabulary and the thinking it engenders can grow.*

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| Who was Richard Trevithick? |
| *Learning Objective: To reflect on what makes a famous person memorable.*  Introduction:  **Richard Trevithick** was a great man who had an interesting life.  ***QU: How many people have their birthday celebrated after 250 years?***  Kings and Queens are remembered like this as are other famous people like Florence Nightingale.  **Talking Partners:**  Think of some people who we still remember today even though they lived a long time ago. With you partner try to think of at least two names.  **Group Activity:**  Share your names with those next to you and try and come up with at least five names in your group.  **Individual / Paired activity:**  Choose one name from your list and try and think of five things that made them great**.**  **Class Response:**  Share ideas as a class. |
| What was Richard Trevithick famous for? |
| *Learning Objective: To find out things that made Richard Trevithick famous.*  Show the film/cartoon.  **Talking Partners:**  What have you learned about Richard Trevithick?  Write idea on a post it and add to a brainstorm at the front of the classroom.  **Group Activity:**  Share your ideas with your group and come up with a list of the things that made Richard Famous.  **Extension idea:**  Use the internet to find out more detail about Richard Trevithick, his background, life story and Cornish heritage.  Create a profile fact sheet for Richard Trevithick. |
| What can we learn from Richard Trevithick and the way he lived his life? |
| *Learning Objective: To understand why people look at Richard Trevithick as a role model.*  **Think & Consider:**  Richard Trevithick would not have become famous if he had given up at the first sign of difficulty.  We say that people who keep going when things get tough as having ***perseverance***.  Richard certainly had problems but he ***persevered*** and stuck with his ideas.  **Class discussion:**  Think of some times in his life when Richard showed perseverance in the face of adversity.  **Talking Partners:**   * Have you ever kept going when things got tough? * Would you throw a skateboard away just because you fell off it a couple of times at first?   **Class Reflection:**  **Perseverance is really important.**  Write on the board:  *‘If at first you you don’t succeed, try, try again.’*  Give children time to reflect and respond. |
| How did Richard Trevithick use his creativity? |
| *Learning Objective: To find out about Richard Trevithick’s creative talents.*  **Introduction:**  Richard was very creative. He was an inventor and could think of solutions to problems when other people got stuck.  **Class Discussion / Reflection:**  At this point you could also introduce the idea of ‘self-belief’ and talk about its importance  You can extend it to the idea of believing in yourself even when others say things about you which are untrue.  You can introduce the idea that we all have a sort of gate in our heads. We can let anything in, whether it is true or not, or we can be selective about what we allow to affect us. If it is not true, you do not let it in. If it is true, we let it in but immediately say to ourselves ‘what do I do about this?’  Richard Trevithick had high self-belief and a good ’gate’.  **Group Activity:**  Think about some of the times in his life when Richard showed real creativity in inventing solutions to problems or doing something that no one had done before.  Come up with a group list.  **Talking Partners:**  Creativity and the ability to come up with new ideas and inventions is something that all people can do but some people are very good at it. They invent amazing machines, paint extraordinary pictures and write brilliant stories.  What things did other people go on to invent based on Richard Trevithick’s work?  How do these inventions still affect our lives today?  **Self Reflection:**  In what ways are you inventive or creative?  Draw yourself in the middle of a piece of paper. Around the outside list the ways you are creative.  Do you write good stories? Are you good at acting or dancing? Do you like building things?  **Class Reflections:**  Creativity is a really great thing that we all have. It really helps us solve problems.  Give some examples of simple, everyday creativity, e.g how to put up shelves in an awkward corner or what colour to paint your bedroom to make it special and express your personality.  We solve little problems every day. We are inventive and creative all the time with little problems. We can also be creative and inventive with really big problems. Discuss. |
| What other qualities did Richard Trevithick have? |
| *Learning Objective: To find out about the other qualities Richard Trevithick possessed.*  **Activity:**  Draw a picture of Richard and put some words around him that you think describe the sort of person he was.  Below are some words that might help get you started.  ***determination creativity confidence enterprise bravery courage***  See if you can come up with some other qualities for Richard and share them as a group.  This will produce a list that has the characteristics of successful people. All people have the potential to develop and use these characteristics.  **Activity:**  Draw a timeline of Richard’s life. Put on it the major events in his life and the qualities that helped him each time. |
| *Extension Task: What would Richard Trevithick do about climate change?* |
| *Learning Objective: To use Richard Trevithick as an inspiration for dealing with today’s issue of climate change.*  **Opening Reflection:**  Climate Change is a very important issue.  What problems come from Climate Change?  What causes it?  If Richard Trevithick were alive today he would use his creativity to come up with some ideas and inventions to deal with it.  **Activity:**  Use your natural creativity and inventiveness to come up with your ideas to deal with problems and causes of Climate Change.  Collect and collate the ideas and discuss to promote further creativity.  Groups could choose an idea to research and elaborate on for a presentation or each individual could develop his/her own ideas.  The Carbon Neutral Cornwall Hive is a good source of simple ideas to start the ball rolling.  Research, draw a picture and write about your invention or idea.  Imagine that you have to do a presentation to the Prime Minister so that your idea is used to fight Climate Change.  How good do you think your idea is?  Are there ways in which it could be improved?  What do other people think?  Now you are thinking like the really creative person you are. |

Hyper-link to the Richard Trevithick 250 animation;

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=snb6YeNJB9Y>

