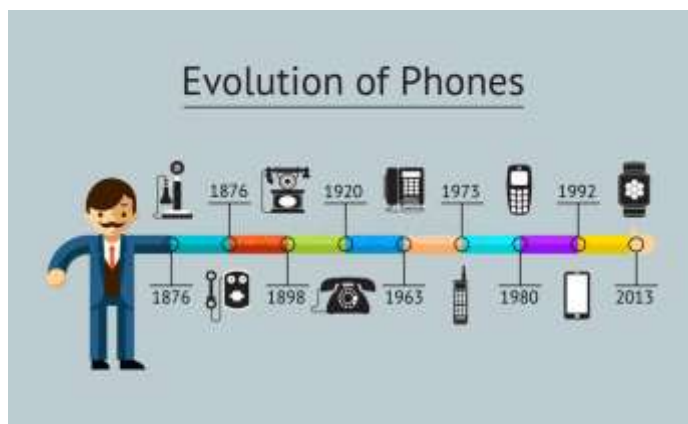


History Overview

Spreading the word: Willian Caxton, Alexander Graham Bell and Tim Berners-Lee



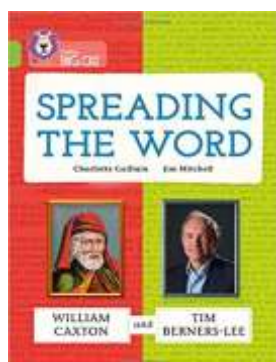
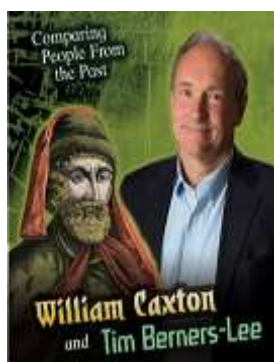
Rationale: This unit of work will present opportunities to examine items of communication from previous eras. It will link to the chosen famous people (Caxton, Bell and Berners-Lee) through a shared theme. Pupils will look at modern and historic forms of communication. They will consider how important the printing press and the World Wide Web are in helping to spread ideas. The children will explore the lives of the significant individuals who have contributed to national and international achievements.

Pre-Unit task: Investigate Morse code. Look at the patterns of dots and dashes. The first message sent by Morse code's dots and dashes across a long distance travelled from Washington, D.C., to Baltimore on Friday, May 24, 1844 - 176 years ago. It signalled the first time in human history that complex thoughts could be communicated at long distances almost instantaneously.

Attention Grabber: Look at a selection of phones - what do they have in common? What is different? How have they changed? Can the children order them from oldest to most modern.

Visits and enrichment activities: Investigate printing.

Key texts



Learning Objectives:

Skills (Learning to . . .)

- *develop their understanding of the historical concepts of continuity and change, similarity and difference and cause and consequence.
- *identify changes within and beyond living memory.
- *fit people and events into a simple chronological framework.
- *develop an awareness of the past and the passing of time.
- *use a range of sources to find out historical information.
- *compare and contrast the discovery and use of the printing press and the World Wide Web

Knowledge (Learning about . . .)

- *the significance of communication in the past and present.
- *the chronology of the evolution of the telephone.
- *the range of methods of communication.
- *the advantages and disadvantages of the printing press and the World Wide Web.
- *the lives and significance of Caxton, Bell and Berners-Lee.

History Overview

Examples of Key Questions:

- *How do we communicate with each other?
- *How would you spread a message to the whole school as quickly as possible?
- *Before the invention of the printing press (1440) how were books written?
- *What was the advantage of the printing press over handwritten books?
- *Who was William Caxton?
- *If you lived in 1475 how would the children spread a message to the rest of their town or village?
- *How have telephones changed over the years?
- *Who was Alexander Graham Bell?
- *Why was then telephone an important invention?
- *How did the telephone change the way people communicated?
- *Who was Tim Berners-Lee?
- *Why did he invent the World Wide Web?
- *How did Tim Berners-Lee want the World Wide Web to be used?
- *How do you think people felt when each invention first appeared?
(printing press, telephone, www)
- *Which method of communication made the greatest impact at the time?
- *If we had to live without either the printing press or the internet, which should it be?

History Overview

Impact/Assessment

Most Children will: (secure)

- *explain what the printing press is
- *describe how books were produced before the printing press and the lengthy process involved.
- *explain how important the printing press was and how it helped to spread ideas.
- *talk about how phones have changed over the years.
- *compare the impact of the printing press and the World Wide Web.

Less Able Children will: (developing)

- *order objects from oldest to most modern.

More Able Children will: (greater depth)



History Overview

Vocabulary:

Alexander Graham Bell	books	calligrapher
code	computer	electronics
Gutenberg	internet	invented
landline	merchant	message
mobile phone	Morse code	network
print	printer	printing press
programs	Samuel Morse	smart phone
technology	telegram	telephone
Tim Berners-Lee	William Caxton	World Wide Web

