

Key Stage 2: Making History



Key facts

- Suitable for: Key Stage 2
- Subjects: History, Art and Design, Science
- Session type: Facilitated Workshop
- Duration: 90 minutes – from 10.15 to 11.45 or from 12.45 – 14.15
- Class size: 30
- Venue: On board the Danny, Canning Half Tide Dock (opposite the Maritime Museum)

Workshop outline

After an initial introduction and safety information, half of the children remain on the prom deck. This group are history explorers. They are given a sheet of visual clues to find objects on the vessel, and they must work in teams to find as many as possible, find out as much about them as possible, and find out if they are from a past era, from the present, or something that was used in the past which continues to be used in the present. When the time is up, they return to the prom deck to discuss their findings and compare notes.

Meanwhile, the others go to the Art Deco saloons, where they listen to our 1950s barman tell the story of the saloon design in 1936, from his perspective. They then examine the saloon, and images of other Art Deco interiors, film sets etc, and through discussion characterize the style, and identify key motifs and materials. Finally, using imitation sticky back wooden veneers, they create their own Art Deco designs. The groups swap over, so that each child completes both activities.

Curriculum links

Key Stage 2 – History

A study of an aspect of history or a site dating from beyond 1066 that is significant in the locality.

Pupils build understanding of historical concepts such as continuity and change, cause and consequence, similarity, difference and significance and use them to make connections and frame historically valid questions.

Key Stage 2 – Science

Pupils observe that some materials change state when they are heated or cooled, and identify how this principle is used on the Danny.

Pupils learn that some changes result in the formation of new materials, and that this kind of change is not normally reversible, including changes associated with burning.

Key Stage 2 – Art and Design

Pupils produce creative work, exploring their ideas and recording their experiences.

Pupils know about great artists, craft makers and designers, and understand the historical and cultural development of their art forms.

Learning outcomes

Knowledge and understanding

Pupils will:

- Know that tugboats like the Daniel Adamson played a significant role in connecting the canals at Ellesmere Port and the city of Liverpool at the beginning of the 20th century.
- Understand the significance of the Port of Liverpool and the Manchester Ship Canal.
- Understand changes produced by simple scientific processes – in this case change of state (water to steam in the boiler and back to water in the condenser) and irreversible chemical change (coal to ash).

- Understand the key features of the Art Deco style and the areas where it had influence – fashion, architecture, graphic design.

Skills

Pupils will:

- Develop team working, communication and analysis skills.
- Learn a new design style in exploring Art Deco design.
- Learn to ask historically valid questions based on their experience and observations.

Concepts

Pupils will:

- Grasp key design features of Art Deco.
- Appreciate the historic importance of the port of Liverpool and the Manchester Ship Canal.
- See in the engineering of the Danny an example of the application of the scientific concepts of reversible change of state and irreversible chemical change, helping them to further grasp these concepts.
- Build on their understanding of historical concepts such as continuity and change, cause and consequence, similarity, difference and significance.

Attitudes

Pupils will:

- See the history of the regions rivers and canals as interesting and relevant to them.
- Enjoy the experience of exploring a unique historical vessel.
- Respect and want to preserve our local history and heritage.