

TALKING MACHINES

Talking Machines Education Resource Template

Theme: Water

Film Title- Coxson & Furphy Water Carts (Coolamon)

About the Clip:

Synopsis: Water carts were important on the farm for carting water for household and stock use. They also supplied water to run steam portable and traction engines when threshing in the field. The most famous Australian water cart was the Furphy although this film profiles a Coxson Water Cart- made by a former employee of the Furphy Foundry.

Duration: 3.20 mins

Study Module:

Curriculum Focus: History – NSW Syllabus for the Australian Curriculum

Year: 9 (Stage 5)

Strand: Historical knowledge and understanding; Historical inquiry and skills

Theme:

- Depth Study 1: Making a Better World? – The Industrial Revolution (1750 – 1914)
- Depth Study 2: Australia and Asia – Making a Nation

Key Concepts:

- Evidence; continuity and change; cause and effect; perspectives; empathy; significance; contestability

Curriculum Applicability:

- The nature and significance of the Industrial Revolution and how it affected living and working conditions, including within Australia (**ACOKFH016**)
- The emergence and nature of significant **economic**, social and political ideas in the period, including nationalism (**ACOKFH019**)
- The experiences of men, women and children during the Industrial Revolution, and their changing way of life (**ACDSEH081**)
- Living and working conditions in Australia around the turn of the twentieth century (that is 1900) (**ACDSEH090**)

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Historical Skills:

- **Analysis and use of sources**
 - Identify the origin, purpose and context of primary and secondary sources (**ACHHS169**)
 - Evaluate the reliability and usefulness of primary and secondary sources (**ACHHS171**)
- **Perspectives and interpretations**
 - Identify and analyse the perspectives of people from the past (**ACHHS172**)
 - Identify and analyse different historical interpretations (including their own) (**ACHHS173**)
- **Explanation and communication**
 - Develop texts, particularly descriptions and discussions that use evidence from a range of sources that are referenced (**ACHHS174**)

General capabilities:

- **Critical and Creative Thinking**
 - Developing questions about aspects of the past that require historical argument
 - Identify and clarify information and ideas
 - Organise and process information
- **Personal and Social Capability – social awareness:**
 - Appreciate diverse perspectives

Context/ Background Information:

Talking Machines: reviving Riverina rural technology collections with video testimonies, captures the histories and stories of generations of Australian men and women who farmed the Riverina, through the rusted metal frames and once sharp blades of dormant farm machinery they used.

The project creates a series of thematic trails across the Riverina and key objects have been selected to support the development of these themes which in turn speak to Australia's role in the industrial revolution- this is the focus of an educational resource. Australia's role in the industrial revolution and the impact of the revolution is little documented in Australian education resources- these films provide an access point for teachers on examples of the impact of the revolution upon rural Australian society. It should be noted that the full impact in Australian society occurred after the curriculum notes on the European based experience- thus date relating to the manufacture and use of some equipment may not align with those published in the curriculum.

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Discussion Pointers:

- Imagine what life was like before there was the ability to cart water. Think specifically about what life on a property was like during drought or a long hot summer.
- Would women on the land find the ability to cart water a positive? Why?
- Some communities still need water delivered during major droughts. Find out where and how this is done.
- Lack of water is the most challenging problem to overcome, discuss this in the light of what you've seen.
- How would you cart water now?

Suggested Classroom Activities:

- Interview your grandparents or an older member of the community about the use of water carts.
- Draw an advertisement for the Coxson Water Cart as if you were a manufacturer.

More Information, Contact Details & Arrangements for Visits

The Up-to-Date Store is located on Cowabbie St in Coolamon and is open Tuesday – Friday 10 am - 4 pm, Saturday 10am- 1pm and Sundays 11am- 2pm or at other times by arrangement.

For more information contact: Coolamon Shire Council on (02) 6930 1800.

You can also find information on the web at <http://www.coolamonshire.com.au/f.ashx/The-Up-to-Date-Store.pdf>.