

TALKING MACHINES

Talking Machines Education Resource Template

Theme: People

Film Title- Cash Railway (Lamson Cash Exchange-Coolamon Up to Date Store)

About the Clip:

Synopsis: The Coolamon Up to Date Store Museum has one of the oldest cash exchange systems in the nation. Join us to hear of the way in which business was once conducted and how this innovation imported from England changed commercial exchange in small communities.

Duration: 2.55 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;

Curriculum Applicability:

- The technological innovations that led to the Industrial Revolution, and other conditions that influenced the industrialisation of Britain (**ACDSEH017**)
- 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**)

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- The short and long-term impacts of the Industrial Revolution, including global changes in landscapes, transport and communication (**ACDSEH082**)

Historical Skills:

- **Chronology, terms and concepts**
 - Use chronological sequencing to demonstrate the relationship between events and developments in different periods and places (**ACHHS164**)
- **Analysis and use of sources**
 - Identify the origin, purpose and context of primary and secondary sources (**ACHHS169**)
- **Perspectives and interpretations**
 - Identify and analyse the perspectives of people from the past (**ACHHS172**)
 - Identify and analyse different historical interpretations (including their own) (**ACHHS173**)

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

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.

Discussion Pointers:

- What was the purpose of the Lamson Cash Railway? What did it offer the people of the day? What would have been the immediate impact of the implementation of the railway?

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- Environment/place can be an important element of identity. Is this the case with the people in the video? Explain the reasons for your response.
- At the time of its installation the cash railway was innovative for the local community. Can you find examples of other payment systems – how have they changed over time?
- Can we always believe what we read? Find two other sources to correlate the level of innovation as told here.

Suggested Classroom Activities:

- Make a site visit to see the Lamson in action.
- Interview your grandparents about shopping and changes to shopping and payment methods for groceries.
- Research shopping and how it's changed in a town like Coolamon. Discover and present your findings to the class.
- Draw an advertisement for the Lamson Cash Railway 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>.