



Great Steam Locomotives

Since George Stephenson's Locomotion No. 1 carried its first excited passengers along the Stockton to Darlington railway in 1825, Britain has loved steam locomotives.

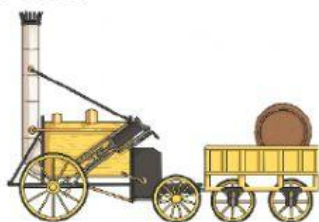
Railways travelled by steam locomotives let people travel further than they had ever done before and businesses could now transport their goods to market much more quickly.

Many great steam locomotives were made and some of them are still famous today.

Rocket

In 1829 father and son team George and Robert Stephenson entered their steam locomotive, Rocket, into the Rainhill Trials. This was a competition to find a locomotive for the new Liverpool to Manchester Railway line. Six locomotives started the competition but the Rocket won.

To many people the Rocket will always be the greatest steam locomotive. It was the fastest of its day reaching a record speed of 29 miles per hour in the Rainhill trials.



Flying Scotsman

The Flying Scotsman was designed by Sir Nigel Gresley and built in Doncaster in 1923. The Flying Scotsman was named because it provided The Flying Scotsman passenger service between London and Edinburgh.

The Flying Scotsman was the first steam locomotive to travel non-stop from London to Edinburgh in 1928 and in 1934 it was the first steam locomotive to reach a top speed of 100 miles per hour.



Mallard

The Mallard was another of Sir Nigel Gresley's designs. It was very fast, sleek and could pull long passenger trains at more than 100 miles per hour.

On 3 July 1938 the Mallard reached a top speed of 126 miles per hour. This world record still stands today.

In its time the Mallard travelled nearly one and a half million miles. It stopped working on the railway lines in 1963 and is now on display at the National Railway museum in York.



Evening Star

The Evening Star was famous before it was even built in 1960 because it was to be the last steam locomotive to be made.

The Evening Star pulled heavy goods trains and carried passengers in its time. It often travelled at speeds of over 90 miles per hour.


The Evening Star stopped working for the railways in 1965.

The introduction of diesel locomotives in the 1960s meant that steam locomotives were used less and less. The golden age of the steam locomotives had come to an end.





Great Steam Locomotives



Read the text carefully and then answer the following questions in detail.

1. When did the first steam locomotive passengers travel? _____

2. Which steam locomotive won the Rainhill Trials? _____

3. Who designed the Flying Scotsman? _____

4. What did the Flying Scotsman do in 1934? _____

5. What was the Mallard's world record speed? _____

6. Where is the Mallard today? _____

7. Why was the Evening Star special? _____

8. Which steam locomotive do you think is the best? Explain your answer using evidence from the text

Challenge: Using your knowledge and evidence from the text, draw and label one of the great steam locomotives you have learnt about.





Great Steam Locomotives

Answers

Read the text carefully and then answer the following questions in detail.

1. When did the first steam locomotive passengers travel?
The first steam locomotive passengers travelled in 1825.
2. Which steam locomotive won the Rainhill Trials?
The Rocket locomotive won the Rainhill Trials.
3. Who designed the Flying Scotsman?
Sir Nigel Gresley designed the Flying Scotsman.
4. What did the Flying Scotsman do in 1934?
In 1934, the Flying Scotsman became the first steam locomotive to reach a top speed of 100 miles per hour.
5. What was the Mallard's world record speed?
The Mallard's world record speed was 126 miles per hour.
6. Where is the Mallard today?
Today, the Mallard is on display at the National Railway Museum in York.
7. Why was the Evening Star special?
The Evening Star was special because it was the last steam locomotive to be made.
8. Which steam locomotive do you think is the best? Explain your answer using evidence from the text
Children's answers may vary but pupils should give a reason for their chosen best locomotive such as: I think the Rocket is the best locomotive because it was the fastest locomotive in its day and won the prestigious Rainhill Trials.





Great Steam Locomotives

Since George Stephenson's Locomotion No. 1 carried its first excited passengers along the Stockton to Darlington railway in 1825, Britain has been captivated by steam locomotives.

Steam locomotives completely changed trade and travel around the country as Britain's railways allowed people to travel further than they had ever done before and business boomed as goods could be transported to market more quickly.

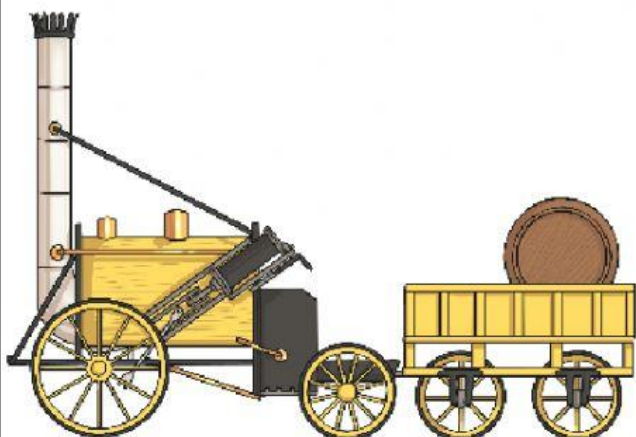
Many great steam locomotives helped Britain to grow and thrive during the golden age of the railways. This text provides information about some of the most famous of these.

Rocket

In 1829 father and son team George and Robert Stephenson entered their steam locomotive, Rocket, into the Rainhill Trials. This was a competition to find a locomotive fit to ride the new Liverpool to Manchester Railway line. Six locomotives started the competition but the Rocket won. It had several new design features which helped it to win.

Rocket had single driving wheels, a multi-tubular boiler and a blast pipe. All these things helped the Rocket to be more powerful and faster than any other locomotive of its time.

To many people the Rocket will always be the greatest of steam locomotives. It was the fastest of its day reaching a record speed of 29 miles per hour in the Rainhill trials and its design features would be used by all other steam locomotives in the future.



Flying Scotsman

The Flying Scotsman is another of Britain's great steam locomotives. It was designed by Sir Nigel Gresley and built in Doncaster in 1923. The Flying Scotsman was named because it provided The Flying Scotsman express passenger service between London and Edinburgh. This service started in 1862 and is still running today!

The Flying Scotsman set two new world records during its time. In 1928 it became the first steam locomotive to travel non-stop from London to Edinburgh and in 1934 it became the first steam locomotive to reach a top speed of 100 miles per hour.

The Flying Scotsman featured in the film The Flying Scotsman in 1929, starred in a British Rail TV advert in 1986 and in 2012 it was engraved on the back of a special £5 coin which was made for the summer Olympics.





Great Steam Locomotives

Mallard

The Mallard was another of Sir Nigel Gresley's designs. It was designed to be fast and sleek could pull long passenger trains at high speeds in excess of 100 miles per hour.

On 3 July 1938 the Mallard became the fastest ever steam locomotive reaching a top speed of 126 miles per hour. This world record still stands to this day.

During its 25 year career the Mallard is said to have travelled nearly one and a half million miles. It was retired from service in 1963 and is currently on display at the National Railway museum in York.



Evening Star

The Evening Star was destined to be a famous steam locomotive before it was even built in 1960. It was designed by R.A. Riddles and it was to be the last steam locomotive for British Railways. It was given the name Evening Star after a competition was held amongst British Rail staff to find the perfect name.

The Evening Star pulled heavy goods trains and express passenger trains in its time and it was regularly recorded transporting passengers at speeds of over 90 miles per hour.

The Evening Star was withdrawn from service in 1965.

The introduction of more and more diesel locomotives in the 1960s meant that steam locomotives were used less and less. The golden age of the steam locomotives had come to an end. However people today still remain captivated by the glorious steam locomotives which were the heroes of a past era of railway history.



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Great Steam Locomotives

Read the text carefully and then answer the following questions in detail.

1. When and where did the first steam locomotive passengers travel? _____

2. How did the steam locomotive help businesses? _____

3. When did Rocket win the Rainhill Trials? _____

4. Why is Rocket so special? _____

5. Who designed the Flying Scotsman? _____

6. Describe one world record set by the Flying Scotsman: _____

7. What was the Mallard's world record speed? _____

8. Where is the Mallard today? _____

9. Why was the Evening Star the last steam locomotive to be made by British rail? _____

10. Which steam locomotive do you think is the best? Explain your answer using evidence from the text

Challenge: Using your knowledge and evidence from the text, draw and label one of the great steam locomotives you have learnt about.





Great Steam Locomotives

Answers

Read the text carefully and then answer the following questions in detail.

1. When and where did the first steam locomotive passengers travel?

The first steam locomotive passengers travelled along the Stockton to Darlington railway in 1825.

2. How did the steam locomotive help businesses?

Steam locomotives helped businesses as they allowed goods to be transported to market more quickly.

3. When did Rocket win the Rainhill Trials?

The Rocket won the Rainhill Trials in 1829.

4. Why is Rocket so special?

Rocket is so special because it was the fastest of its day, reaching 29mph, and other locomotives in the future would take and use design features from the Rocket.

5. Who designed the Flying Scotsman?

The Flying Scotsman was designed by Sir Nigel Gresley.

6. Describe one world record set by the Flying Scotsman:

Children may explain either: The Flying Scotsman became the first steam locomotive to travel non-stop from London to Edinburgh in 1928.

Or: The Flying Scotsman became the first steam locomotive to reach a top speed of 100 miles per hour in 1934.

7. What was the Mallard's world record speed?

The Mallard's world record speed was 126 miles per hour.

8. Where is the Mallard today?

Today, the Mallard is at the National Railway Museum in York.

9. Why was the Evening Star the last steam locomotive to be made by British rail?

The Evening Star was the last locomotive to be made by British Rail because more and more diesel locomotives were being made.

10. Which steam locomotive do you think is the best? Explain your answer using evidence from the text?

Children's answers may vary but pupils should give a reason for their chosen best locomotive such as: I think the Mallard is the best steam locomotive because it reached top speeds of 126 miles per hour and is the fastest steam locomotive even today.





Great Steam Locomotives

Since George Stephenson's Locomotion No. 1 carried its first excited passengers along the Stockton to Darlington railway in 1825, Britain has been captivated by the wonder of steam locomotives. The grandeur and beauty of the steam locomotive has captured the hearts and imaginations of generation after generation of people.

Steam locomotives completely changed trade and travel around the country as Britain's network of railways opened up new experiences for the people who could travel further than they had ever done before and businesses thrived as goods could be transported in and out of the ports quickly and efficiently.

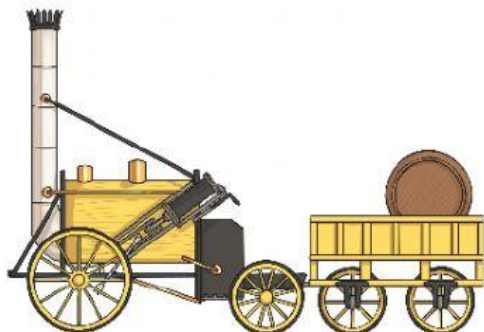
Many great steam locomotives contributed to the growth and success of the golden age of the railways. This text aims to provide the reader with detailed information about some of the most famous of these historic and majestic machines.

Rocket

In 1829 father and son team George and Robert Stephenson entered their steam locomotive, Rocket, into the Rainhill Trials. This was a competition designed to find a locomotive fit to ride the new Liverpool to Manchester Railway line. The competition set clear guidelines to its entrants: The winning locomotive had to consume its own smoke; be fast and powerful and be able to travel the full distance of the railway line. Six locomotives started the competition but the Rocket was soon declared as the clear winner. The Rocket had several new design features which contributed to its overall victory in the trials.

The first innovative feature was the use of single driving wheels meaning that the Rocket was lighter overall and cheaper to make. Secondly, the Rocket used a multi-tubular boiler which enabled it to run more efficiently. Thirdly, combined with the multi-tubular boiler Rocket had a blast pipe which allowed it to force smoke out of the chimney at a faster rate making it more powerful and faster.

To many people the Rocket will always remain the greatest of steam locomotives. It was the fastest of its day, reaching a record speed of 29 miles per hour in the Rainhill trials and it combined all the key design features which all other steam locomotives would have in the future.



Flying Scotsman

The Flying Scotsman is another of Britain's great steam locomotives. It was designed by Sir Nigel Gresley and built in Doncaster for the London and North Eastern Railway in 1923. The Flying Scotsman was named because it worked The Flying Scotsman express passenger service between London and Edinburgh. This service began in 1862 and is still running today!

The Flying Scotsman set two new world records during its glory days. First of all, in 1928, it became the first steam locomotive to travel non-stop from London to Edinburgh in a record time of eight hours. Later, in 1934, it became the first steam locomotive to reach a top speed of 100 miles per hour.

The Flying Scotsman became quite a star over time. It featured in the film The Flying Scotsman in 1929, appeared in a British Rail TV advert in 1986 and in 2012 it was engraved on the back of a special £5 coin which was made in celebration of the summer Olympics.





Great Steam Locomotives

Mallard

The Mallard was another of Sir Nigel Gresley's designs. It was designed to be fast and sleek and it able to pull long passenger trains at high speeds. The Mallard had an aerodynamic body, a double chimney and effective blast pipe which all helped it to easily reach speeds in excess of 100 miles per hour.

On 3 July 1938, when it was 4 months old, the Mallard broke the world record for the fastest ever steam locomotive reaching a top speed of 126 miles per hour. This world record still stands to this day.

During its 25 year career the Mallard is reported to have travelled nearly one and a half million miles. It was retired from service in 1963 with a reputation as one of the greatest steam locomotives of all time. The Mallard is currently housed at the National Railway museum in York.



Evening Star

The Evening Star was destined to be a famous steam locomotive before it was even built in 1960. It was designed by R.A. Riddles and it was to be the last steam locomotive for British Railways. It was given the name Evening Star after a competition was held amongst British Rail staff to find the perfect name.

The Evening Star worked both as a heavy freight locomotive and an express passenger train hauler and it was regularly recorded transporting passengers at speeds of over 90 miles per hour.

The Evening Star was withdrawn from service in 1965.

The introduction of more and more diesel locomotives in the 1960s meant that steam locomotives were used less and less. The golden age of the steam locomotives had come to an end. However, the fascination and appreciation of steam locomotives was never lost and it is not surprising that people today remain captivated by the nostalgia and majesty of the glorious steam locomotives which truly are the heroes of a bygone era of railway history.



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