



# Lesson Activity Sheet

School: .....

Date: .....

Class size: .....

Year group: .....



Application used: Minecraft

Resources: 15 ipad minis, interactive whiteboard

## Topic: The Victorians

### Overview:

This week students are all looking at the Victorians and in particular the great achievements of Isambard Kingdom Brunel.

### Week 1

### Learning Objective/s:

1. To understand roughly how long ago the Victorian era was i.e. about 150 years ago was right in the middle!
2. To understand that The **Victorian era** of **British history** was the period of **Queen Victoria's** reign from 1837 until her death in 1901.
3. To learn about some of the key engineering achievements of Brunel... e.g. the Clifton Suspension Bridge.

### Learning Outcome:

Each child should have a completed suspension bridge constructed in Minecraft.

## LESSON OUTLINE

### Starter input/activity (10 mins)

Teacher to explain that this lesson is all about one of the most famous Victorian designers... Isambard Kingdom Brunel and that we are going to have a look at one of his more local creations a bit later!

As some children might not have used Minecraft before, explain the basics of movement, selecting materials and placing blocks. Students can have a quick attempt at building a kennel ...perhaps even with a simple pitched roof!..and put a pig in it...or a wolf!

See if they can put a couple of signs saying things like 'Victorian Dog House'! or '150 years ago' to reinforce the basic learning objectives

## Input

Show the children the resource sheet and talk through a few facts.

1. This incredible design ( for its day ) took more than 30 years to build and Brunel didn't live to see his design finished
2. The bridge is a whopping 101m above the water below.
3. The bridge spans more than 1300ft (400m) and in its day was one of the longest bridges in the world

## Activity

Using the pictures for reference try and build your own suspension bridge! Put as many informative signs around it as possible.

## Plenary/Reinforcement

Teacher to lead a short discussion about Brunel..Did the students know that he was also responsible for the Great Western Railway and the design of the first propeller driven ocean going iron boats?!

## Differentiation and Extension

If some of the able students finish their suspension bridges they can build a minecart railway. Less able children can use the 'pixel art' ref on the resource sheet to see how to construct the shape of the bridge.

## National Curriculum:

1. History - The Victorians
2. IT - Presenting information using 3D Design tools

