

Ideas for Today's Resources

The new crossing over the River Tees will begin construction in the next few years. These resources are intended to make people aware of what is happening but also provide a real context for a problem solving challenge for children. Obviously you can use the videos and sheets in whatever way is useful but below are some ideas that might be pursued.

Although there will be a new set of resources each Monday/Wednesday/Friday, tasks extending from one week to the next would be a great collaborative effort that could be sustained by multiple people, teacher, children depending on where you are! I'd love to see some finished models of the Transporter!

Using the videos

Watch the Challenge video for the context of the task. Then discuss it. Open up google maps and have a look at where the bridges are right now.

Discussion points:

- Where should it be? Why?
- What type of crossing ? Tunnel? Bridge? Something else?
- What does it carry? Cars? Trains? People? Hedgehogs?
- How can we make it spectacular as well as functional?
- How can we protect against current problems? Wind? Congestion?

Community

Creating a sense of community around this work will improve authenticity and motivation for the children. I have provided a google folder at the bottom of the webpage for images of work to be uploaded to. Please don't put full names on, first name is fine and possibly the town where you are. Experience shows that this really develops self confidence and improved outcomes for further work. Equally you can email work to me.

Tasks and outcomes

The basic outcome is to design a new crossings and there is a sheet that can help with that although a huge piece of paper would probably be even better.

Task suggestions include:

- Design the crossing on the sheet provided
- Create a huge design on a the back of a wallpaper roll
- Create a model of your design: cardboard (cereal packets in strips), LEGO, straws etc.
- Create a model of the Transporter (or Newport?) Bridge
- Can you make a working model of the Transporter Bridge?
- Debug the Scratch task on the webpage (full video tutorials available on the Scratch site if needed)
- Explore and create work on the theme of 'Waiting for me Dad' by Mackenzie Thorpe (right)

