

Pathfinders - Inter-Nation Media Station



Overview

"Inter-Nation Media Station" is a thematic unit all about media and broadcasting. There is a key subject focus on history, through which we will learn about early methods of communication, leading to the invention of both the television and radio. We will develop confidence in oracy, through opportunities to work on our own broadcasts.

What?

What does 'broadcasting' mean?

- Broadcasting is spreading information on a large scale using any electronic communication method.

What does 'media' mean?

- Media is the method used to spread information e.g. telephone, newspaper, TV.



Who?

Who invented the television?

- A Scottish inventor, John Logie Baird, made the first television in 1925. All the programmes were in black and white. The United States of America was the first country to introduce colour television programmes in the early 1950s.

Who invented the radio?

- Marconi invented radio communication, sending and receiving his first radio signal in Italy in 1895.

Why?

Why do we share news in a different way today from in the past?

- Nowadays, we have electricity and the internet which means we can share news and information instantly and with many people at the same time. Most people have a television now. In the past, people went to the cinema to watch the news and see films.

When?

When were the first newspapers made?

- The first newspapers were carved on metal and stone in Roman times! They appeared around 131 BCE / BC and had news about gladiator fights, battle victories and people's lives.

How?

How was news shared in the past?

- People told stories and spread news by sending running messengers, ringing church bells, sending smoke signals, lighting beacons, sending letters and telling stories around the fire.
- The first newspapers arrived after the invention of the printing press in 1440.

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How to...

...make your own broadcast

- Collect pieces of news from around school and then choose a class newscaster and cameraman / woman to make a video news broadcast recording to share with another class.



Concept Flow

- To know about how news was shared in the past
- To know about the ways in which news is shared today, compared with in the past
- To understand the meaning of the terms 'media' and 'broadcasting'
- To recognise some of the advantages and disadvantages of present day media coverage



Vocabulary

BCE / BC: Before Common Era / Before Christ

Beacon: a fire or light set up in a high place as a signal, warning or celebration

Broadcast: a radio or television programme

Church bells: In Europe, people rang church bells so that everybody could come and hear the news

Communication: sending and receiving information

Digital: involving the use of technology

Invent: to create or design something new

Jingle: a short song used in adverts

Letter: a written communication sent by post

Media: the way news and information is sent out for people to access

Newspaper: a printed paper containing news, stories and adverts

Script: the written part of a broadcast, play or film

Semaphore: a system of sending messages through flag signals

Smoke signals: a column of smoke used to send messages to a person far away