

TfL TubeGuru

Activity idea: TubeGuru - Station research project

Resource needed:

www.visitlondon.com/tubeguru

This is an excellent website with an interactive feel. You can use this resource to navigate The Tube system together as a whole class on an interactive whiteboard. Use the 'Station Search' key to pick a Tube station and watch as the screen automatically navigates you to your chosen destination. You can travel from one side of London to another whilst your class begin to build up a strong mental picture of where key stations are situated. Children will enjoy exploring this site individually as well.

Activity idea: Comparing and contrasting facilities on the Underground

Pupils can begin to develop a sense of ownership of the Underground by using TubeGuru to conduct individual mini research projects on facilities provided at key stations or lines.

By clicking on a station icon an information page will appear. Click on the option 'about this station' and you can view information about the station itself. It informs the user whether the chosen Underground station provides key facilities from a list of ten possibilities, such as lifts, escalators, waiting rooms or car parks.

Initially, you can focus on your local Tube station and research its present facilities and compare or contrast against several other stations. Pick contrasting stations for example a National Rail interchange station such as King's Cross, a new station on the Jubilee line

such as Westminster and a station such as Arsenal that might have significance to the children. Ask the children to keep notes on the stations and facilities they have researched. Ask them to verbally compare their research with a partner and draw a conclusion.

Activity idea: Creating a database of information

Resource needed: **Database Teacher resource**

To formally record the pupil's research ask them to create their own database by surveying 12 different Underground stations in regards to six facilities of their choice. Ask them to think carefully about their range of stations and facilities. Record their data on the database worksheet. You can use this paper version to create a simple computerised database where the information can be manipulated and analysed.

Activity idea: Presenting the information

Resource needed: **Underground fact sheet Teacher resource**

This data can be also be used to create a simple presentation about what they have found out. It can be presented as a fact sheet, a graph, a simple tally chart, in a written report, or as an oral presentation. To support this you can also provide the children with the Underground fact sheet Teacher resource.

For teacher support material visit www.tfl.gov.uk/tube/company/linefacts/.

This is more suited for teacher research than pupil enquiry but if you want to produce an additional fact sheet this is an excellent source of information.