

Classroom based activities

Please note: the accompanying teacher resource PDF contains all the relevant worksheets and teacher notes mentioned in the following activities.

Activity idea: [Buying a Ticket](#)

Resource needed: [Ticket Teacher Resource](#)

All under 16's are encouraged to get an Oyster photocard which allows them free or reduced rate travel in London. The Oyster photocard acts in two ways. It firstly, allows all under 16's the privilege of free travel on the trams and buses in London and secondly acts as a pay as you go Oyster card on Tube and DLR Services.

Pay as you go Oyster cards are quick, easy to use and you can top up your card at any Tube station touch screen ticket machine, ticket office or Oyster Ticket stop. You must always touch your Oyster card flat on the yellow readers at the start and end of your journey. The fare for your journey is then automatically deducted from the Pre Pay on your card. A return fare is exactly double the price of a single.

The worksheet illustrates how travelling within different zones and at different times will deduct different amounts of money from their Pre Pay and allows children to practice working this out.

Activity idea: [Help Points](#)

Resource needed: [Help Point Teacher resource](#), [Help Point photo card](#)

Sometimes, whilst out and about children might need to seek some advice or help, and they need to know how to do so. Often this is from a person in uniform however other forms of help are also available. Use the Help Point photo cards to discuss how to use the different Help Points and ask the children to

provide scenarios of when you might need to use them. Reinforce the message that the emergency button is only to be used in a real emergency. The worksheet provides an example of a Help Point in Stratford Bus Station and provides the children with some thought provoking questions.

Activity idea: [Advertisement for new staff](#)
Resource needed: [Advertisement Teacher resource](#), [Staff photo card set](#)

To help develop an understanding of the nature of the work carried out by people employed by Transport for London ask the children to write a job advertisement for a staff member. This could be a driver, Customer Services Assistant or Cleaner. Use the staff photo card set to help the children to think about the skills, knowledge and experience that would be essential in the given job roles. Having written their own job advertisement, the children can apply to a classmate's job advert.

Activity idea: [Design a safe and practical waiting area](#)

Resource needed: [Design Teacher resource](#)

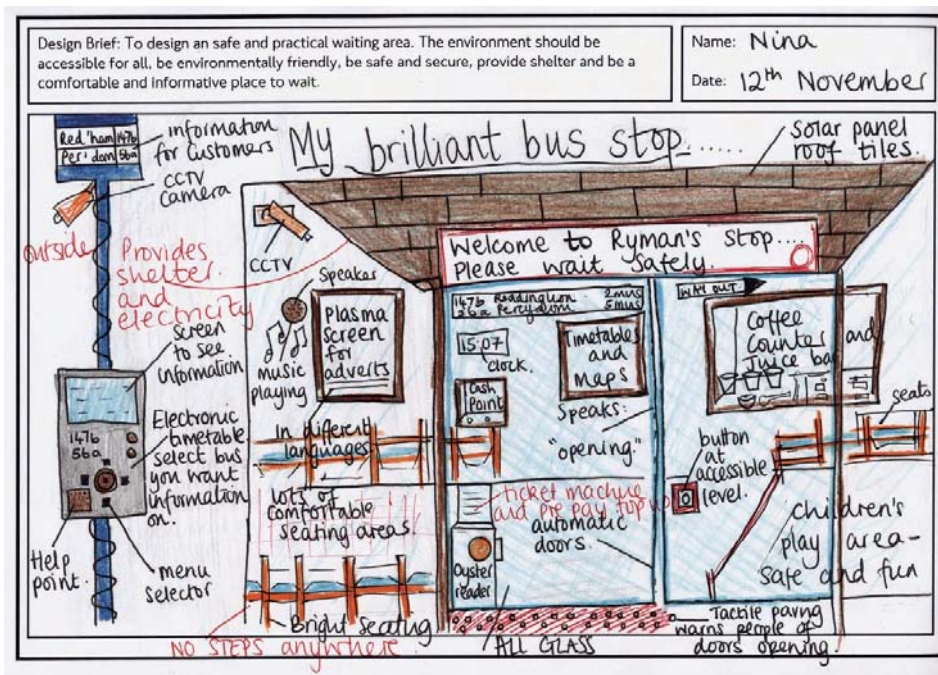
It is important that children understand that they have a responsibility to care for and look after the environments and communities in which they live. This also applies to shared waiting areas such as Underground or DLR stations, bus or tram stops and piers. These areas are the first initial port of contact for many passengers and are the basis for people's perception of the transport system.

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Use the journey photo card set as a discussion point at the start of the session and encourage children to pick out design features they both like and dislike whilst discussing the function they serve for customers.

Pay particular attention to the different types of waiting environment including the design of seating, signage, types of technology in use, display areas, choice of materials and how the area is designed to make it accessible for all customers, such as step free access.

Ask the children to carefully follow the brief whilst designing a waiting area for a mode of transport of their choice.



Background information for teachers:

If people have to wait in graffiti-filled, dirty and unkempt conditions it affects how they feel about and treat the public transport in London. Focusing on these design features with children can begin to evoke a sense of respect, fascination and an understanding of why these areas need to be conserved in their very best condition.

Newer Underground Stations and Bus Interchange stations, such as Stratford, have been built with advanced architectural concepts and are equipped with the latest technology such as touch screen ticket machines. They aim to make travelling a

pleasurable and enjoyable experience. With careful consideration given to conserving energy the newer stations are built to take full advantage of natural daylight. The materials and fittings therefore chosen to fill the station, such as large sheet glass entrances, stainless steel cladding and carefully controlled lightning, help to create a spacious and bright environment. The materials are also chosen to be durable in order to limit the natural wear and tear that they will have to endure over a typical 50 year period.

Clear signage is a key feature that helps to create an orderly and organised environment. The Way Out signs are one of the most

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important signs to appear on any transport system and are designed to be highly visible. The points at which customers enter and exit the environment have been constructed to allow the smooth running of the system, often providing an area where all customers are moving in the same direction and avoiding collisions with oncoming customers. In the same manner, provision of bus lanes within London is one of the ways in which to keep traffic flowing by providing a space where buses can stop without bringing the rest of the traffic to a stand still. The bus lanes act as a filter lane to buses providing a quicker journey to passengers.

Electronic displays, known as a countdown dot matrix, allow passengers to see the frequency of the next Tube, DLR, tram or bus. All stops are clearly sign posted and display travel information in regards to maps, relevant timetables and travel information hotline numbers.

View the online dot matrix for the tube and DLR at: www.tfl.gov.uk/tube/travelinfo/eta/
www.tfl.gov.uk/dlr/traintimes/daisy/index.shtml

There are no litter bins located on any mode of transport in London due to the fire risk that large amounts of waste can cause and in response to security alerts. Therefore it is essential that any food wrappers or newspapers are disposed of when customers finish travelling. All areas have also been designed to be designated smoke free areas to avoid unnecessary fire risks and for the comfort of other passengers. Located at the entrances of most Underground, DLR, rail,

tram and bus stations are small metal containers with which cigarettes should be extinguished and disposed of before travelling.

Other safety features also exist such as platform edge doors on the Jubilee line extension, the painted yellow line on platform edges, tactile paving to assist blind or partially sighted people near crossings or platform edge, passenger emergency alarms and high visibility signage to warn of dangers such as deep water.

Accessibility is important and surface transport allows wheelchairs to board trams, buses and trains with ease. All Tram stops have step free access and most buses in London have hydraulic ramps to allow access on and off with ease. There are allocated wheelchair spaces on buses and in the case of a tram a specially sited intercom to speak to the driver in an emergency, together with an easy reach stop request button. All doors have an opening button on them at an accessible height.

A range of facilities such as vending machines, telephones, and information points are also provided to take into account the needs of the customer and try to make waiting as convenient and comfortable as possible. These environments also provide excellent areas in which to place safety campaign posters and advertisements. On some new buses in London, within some phone boxes and at Tottenham Court Road station, plasma screens are being used to create a multi-media based environment.