

Year 5 Summer Term 2 - Parent Information

Firedamp and Davy Lamps

How did mines impact on the North East?

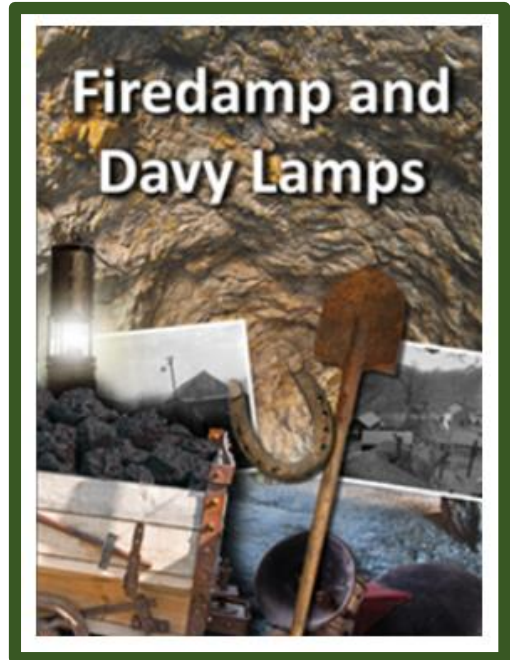
How did it feel to work in a coal mine?

How has the coal mining industry changed over the years and does it have a future?

This half-term we will explore these questions and more in this special project about the coal industry and its impact on the UK and the North East in particular.

In this project you will explore:

- The history of coal mining
- Mining strikes and their effect on the miners, their families and communities
- The legacy and future of coal mining

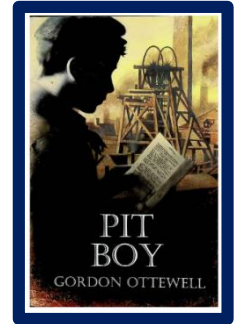


Helping your child prepare for their project

County Durham has a large number of former pit villages and communities that once revolved around mining. Can your child locate the nearest pit to their home? Is there any evidence that there once was a pit in that area? Take photographs. Ask relatives if they remember when the mines were still operational.

Our Class Novel – Pit Boy

A moving and exciting story of an eleven-year-old boy's first days working down a Derbyshire coal mine in the 1850s. The author, Gordon Ottewell, draws on his own experiences in the mining industry to paint a wonderful portrait of comradeship within a mining community at a time when going to school and receiving an education was a rare privilege.



Curriculum Themes for this half-term	
Memorable experience	Trip to Beamish Museum
English	Recount of a visit, Persuasive writing, Playscripts
Maths	Converting measures, volume
Science	Working scientifically
A&D	The work of the Pitmen Painters
Computing	Vector graphics
Geography	Locating mines of the North East
History	The impact of mines on North East culture
PSHE	Changes
RE	Rituals of different religions
French	Les pays de l'Europe/Le Tour de France
Music	Hans Zimmer's Earth music as an inspiration for a composition