

- Historical maps of your region

Begin with a discussion about how transport in the region has evolved over time. Find out what the pupils know already. Maybe their parents or grandparents have mentioned that it used to be safer to walk to school when they were young for instance.

Extend this to include how various forms of transport have developed over time. Give the pupils historical maps of the region from various periods in time and ask them to investigate them for transport networks. Are there railways? Roads? How do they compare to present day maps? What has changed and why has it changed?

Interestingly, steam trains were the most polluting form of transport in the early days of the railway. Now of course, trains have a very small impact compared to other forms of travel. What about bicycles? You can extend this activity to include as much detail as you like and ask pupils to research a history of local transport, with old photographs, books, the library, and web based resources.

