

# Carnegie Creators @ Home

## Week 1: Playful Post



### Victorian Invention: The Postal Service

Have you had any parcels or letters delivered to your house recently? Well they will probably have come by post! But when Andrew Carnegie was born, the postal service as we know it didn't exist – if you wanted to send a letter you had to wait until a person came along your street to collect them.

During his lifetime there were lots of big changes to do with post....

- 1840: The first adhesive (sticky) postage stamp to be used publicly, the 'Penny Black,' was introduced
- 1843: The first Christmas card was sent
- 1852: Post boxes were introduced
- 1870: The first postcards were issued in the UK

Did you know...

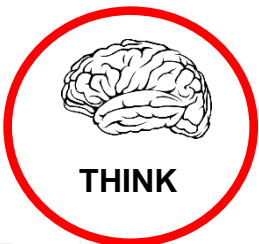
post boxes used to be green!!



Have a look at the pictures below, these are two mailboxes in Dunfermline – maybe you will see them when you are out for a walk!

**Question:** What letters can you see? Can you guess what they stand for?

AND



Post box 1: On Moodie Street, opposite the Andrew Carnegie Birthplace Museum



Post box 2: On Comely Park

[Click for a video of Lynsey talking about Post box 1](#)

The letters on a post box tell us which King or Queen was on the throne when it was made. The first letter is for their name and the R stands for either 'Regina' or 'Rex' meaning Queen or King in Latin. The Vs and Is are Roman numerals.

So most of our post boxes today have 'E II R' for today's Queen, 'Queen Elizabeth the second' but...

**Please turn over**

**Post box 1** has 'VR' for Queen Victoria, who became Queen over 180 years ago!

And **Post box 2** is even more special as it was made under King Edward VIII (the eighth) who was King for less than a year! There were only 161 of these ever made.



### The Penny Black Postage Stamp

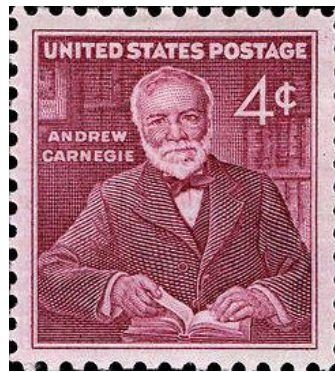
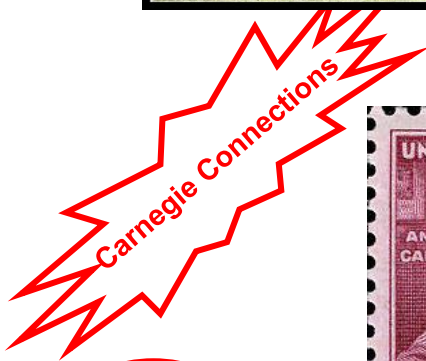
This was the first adhesive (sticky) stamp used for UK post 180 years ago!

#### Questions:

- Why do you think it was called the 'penny black' stamp?  
Clue: Think about the colour and the price!
- Who do you think the picture is of?  
Clue: What is she wearing on her head?

Andrew Carnegie was once featured on his very own stamp!

He's also on lots of postcards in our shop!



### Some ideas for playful post activities....

#### Design your own postage stamps

Use [Red Activity Sheet 1](#) to draw your own stamp designs.

You could draw people or places or something completely different!

Stamps often feature silhouettes (outlines) of people, you can create your own silhouettes using torches or sunlight.

#### Make and send a postcard

Use [Red Activity Sheet 2](#) to design a postcard of your special place and write a message on the back.

Why not send your postcard to someone special or send it to us so we can see your amazing design?



Andrew Carnegie Birthplace  
Museum, Moodie Street,  
Dunfermline, KY12 7PL

#### Play Postal Worker

Write or draw a letter for everyone in your house and deliver them, don't forget to sort them into A-Z order first!

You can even make your own post box for your house using an old cereal box and post each other letters.

And a little song about postal workers (to the tune of 'I'm A Little Tea Pot')

I deliver mail, rain or shine  
If you put a stamp on, it will get there in time  
Can you help me sort my mail today?  
Collect the ones that start with ..... (pick a letter and find things in the room that start with it)

