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London Eye

# The Experience

## KS3 Creative Pod Plan for Teachers

We have created this very simple, easy-to-deliver, 30-minute Creative Pod Plan for you to help inspire students during their London Eye Experience.

Please **PRINT THIS PLAN** and bring the required resources to complete this lesson on the day.

### LEARNING OBJECTIVES

To be **INSPIRED** by their flight over the London skyline.

To **LOCATE** famous London landmarks.

To **LEARN** more about the history and architecture of London's landmarks.

To **PARTICIPATE** in a curriculum linked activity during the 30-minute rotation.

### ABOUT YOUR FLIGHT

Length of Flight/Lesson: 30 minutes

Maximum class size in a pod is 28 (students and chaperones), if greater than this your group will be split between pods.

All guests will be subject to security and bag checks before boarding the London Eye.

All guests will exit through the gift shop.

### PROPOSED FLIGHT ITINERARY

**Following security checks and boarding** (time varies in relation to queue), **students arrive at the Pod entrance**. Safely get into the Pod.

**WELCOME TO THE LONDON EYE!** Listen to announcement and let students familiarise themselves with the capsule. 2 minutes

Provide a brief introduction to the London Eye (Resource 1). 3 minutes

**Starter Task: Skyline Facts** 5 minutes  
Starting with the East share some of the facts and raise questions in relation to architecture and landmarks the students will be able to see looking out over the skyline. Follow with a couple looking to the North (London Skyline Landmarks & Facts Resource)

**Main Activity** 5 minutes  
Deliver chosen activity from activities 1-5

**Take a Break** You'll be at the very top! 3 minutes

**Main Activity** 5 minutes  
Complete chosen activity

**Plenary Task: Skyline Facts** 5 minutes  
Finish the experience with some of the facts and raise questions in relation to architecture and landmarks looking to the West and then South (London Skyline Landmarks & Facts Resource)

End of Pod Journey (includes photo announcement) 2 minutes

**THANK YOU FOR TAKING FLIGHT TODAY! PLEASE TAKE CARE WHEN YOU LEAVE THE POD. TAKE YOUR WORK WITH YOU AND WE HOPE YOU'VE BEEN INSPIRED BY THE LONDON SKYLINE!**

Students carry the work they've done out of the Pod so that they can develop it or use it to complete the Post-Event Activities.

Leave Pod

### IN-POD ACTIVITIES

Choose one to include in your rotation. **You will need to bring pens/pencils and clipboards to complete the activities.**

**ACTIVITY 1: BUILDINGS, ARCHITECTS AND DESIGNERS**

In this task, pupils will sketch and annotate two building designs which they select themselves.

**ACTIVITY 2: EXPLORING THE THAMES**

Ask pupils to observe and note all the ways they can see the river being used.

**ACTIVITY 3: LONDON'S BRIDGES**

During this activity, pupils are provided with images of 6 London bridges. During the tour, they record the name of each bridge and facts about them. They also have a short series of opinion-based questions.

**ACTIVITY 4: THE EYE IN NUMBERS**

This task involves pupils compiling a bank of numerical data about the London Eye. They will be provided with a list of numbers from which to choose and must match these to the correct fact. They will discover facts such as: how many passengers can travel on the Eye at any one time; the weight of an individual capsule and the number of panes of glass used in the entire structure!

### SUPPORTING RESOURCES

**RESOURCE 1:** London Eye Introduction

London Skyline Landmarks & Facts Resource ([link](#)) >

### KEY TERMINOLOGY/LANGUAGE

London, City, Skyline, Architecture, Culture, Society, Development, Change, Inspiration, Local, National.



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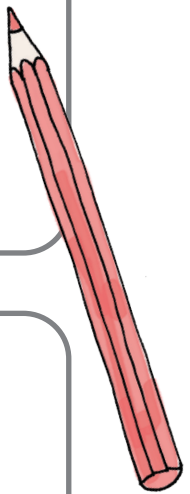
London Eye

## Activity 1

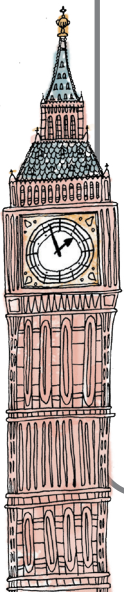
### BUILDINGS, ARCHITECTS, DESIGNERS

Select two contrasting building designs. Choose to either create a quick sketch of each with annotations, or make notes about the design, shapes, construction materials, differences etc of each building.

**Building 1:**



**Building 2:**



The London Eye is conceived and designed by Marks Barfield Architects



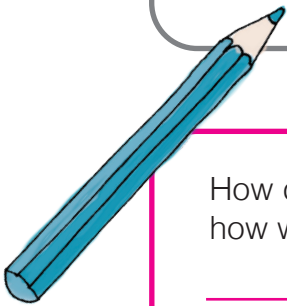


## Activity 2

### EXPLORING THE RIVER THAMES

Look at the river from different sides of the pod. Make notes about how the river is being used and who is using it.

#### Observations:



How do you think the river might have looked during the Victorian era and how was it being used then?

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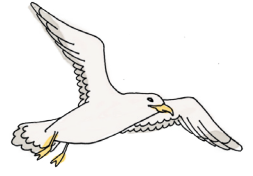
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## Activity 3



### LONDON'S BRIDGES

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_



Which bridge design do you find most interesting and why?

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Which bridge design do you think is the most memorable and why?

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If you were designing a new bridge for London, which features from the bridges you can see would you include in your bridge design?

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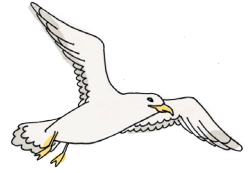
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# Activity 3 - Teachers answer sheet



## LONDON'S BRIDGES

Name: LAMBETH BRIDGE

Name: WATERLOO BRIDGE

Name: THE HUNGERFORD BRIDGE



Name: TOWER BRIDGE

Name: WESTMINSTER BRIDGE

Name: MILLENNIUM BRIDGE



Which bridge design do you find most interesting and why?

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Which bridge design do you think is the most memorable and why?

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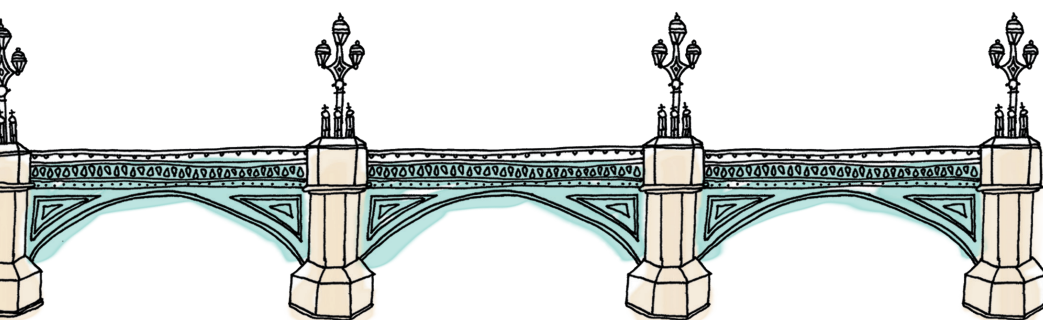


## Activity 4

### THE EYE IN NUMBERS

Circle the correct numerical data about the London Eye; think about what you've heard and make reasonable estimates.

<b>Height of the London Eye</b>	115 metres	135 metres	155 metres
<b>Time it took to build the London Eye</b>	16 months	24 months	30 months
<b>Number of people the Eye can hold per rotation</b>	640	800	960
<b>Cost to build the London Eye</b>	£45 million	£75 million	£100 million
<b>Circumference of the wheel</b>	424 metres	524 metres	624 metres
<b>The distance you can see from the London Eye on a clear day</b>	10km	25km	40km
<b>Number of pods</b>	32	33	34
<b>Weight of a pod</b>	10 tonnes	20 tonnes	30 tonnes
<b>Height of a pod</b>	3.5 metres	4.9 metres	5.3 metres
<b>Weight of the entire structure</b>	670 tonnes	1300 tonnes	2100 tonnes
<b>Number of panels of glass in the entire structure</b>	425	746	1152





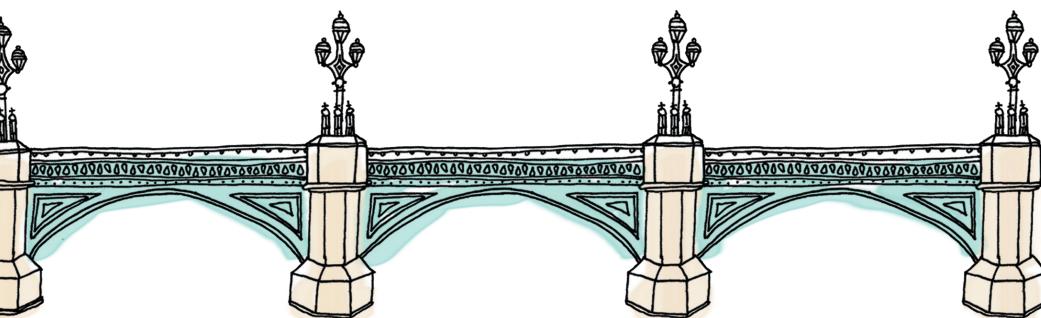


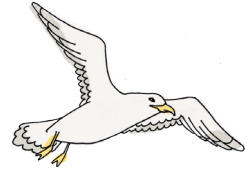
## Activity 4 - Teachers answer sheet

### THE EYE IN NUMBERS

Circle the correct numerical data about the London Eye; think about what you've heard and make reasonable estimates.

Height of the London Eye		135 metres	
Time it took to build the London Eye	16 months		
Number of people the Eye can hold per rotation		800	
Cost to build the London Eye		£75 million	
Circumference of the wheel	424 metres		
The distance you can see from the London Eye on a clear day			40km
Number of pods	32		
Weight of a pod	10 tonnes		
Height of a pod		4.9 metres	
Weight of the entire structure			2100 tonnes
Number of panels of glass in the entire structure			1152





## FACTS ABOUT THE LONDON EYE

- The idea for the London Eye originally came from a newspaper competition! A husband and wife called David Marks and Julia Barfield designed it for a competition to find a landmark for the Millennium in a national newspaper. The competition was abandoned with no winner, but they were so passionate about their idea that they decided to pursue it. A local London newspaper campaigned for the Eye to be built.
- The different components of the Eye were shipped up the River Thames and assembled in a ring above the water. It was then lifted into its vertical position on the South Bank by the largest cranes in the world in 1999, just before the Millennium Eve. It opened in the year 2000 to celebrate the Millennium.
- At 135 metres high, this is the world's highest observation wheel, not a Ferris wheel. There are three reasons that this is not a Ferris wheel: the pods are fixed on the outside of the rim (Ferris wheels are on the inside); the pods are completely enclosed and because the London Eye is supported by an "A" shaped frame on one side only.
- You are now in one of 32 high tech fully enclosed pods – one for every borough of London. For superstitious reasons they are numbered up to 33, so that pod number 13 is missed out.

