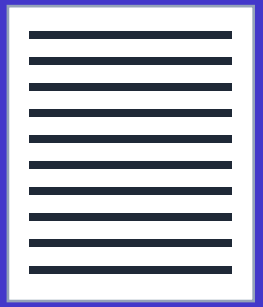
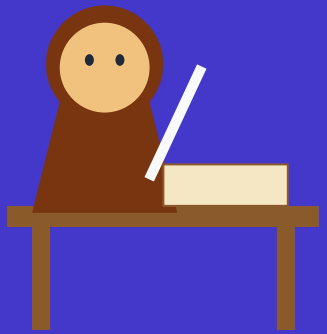
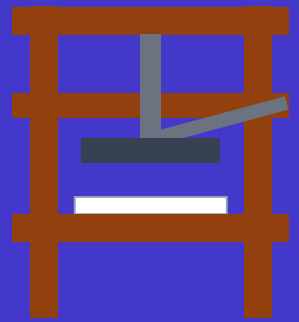


How did the printing press change communication?



What changed for people?





History · Year 1/2 · Communication

Today we are learning...

How did the printing press change communication?

Year 1

I can say that the printing press helped make books more quickly.

Year 2

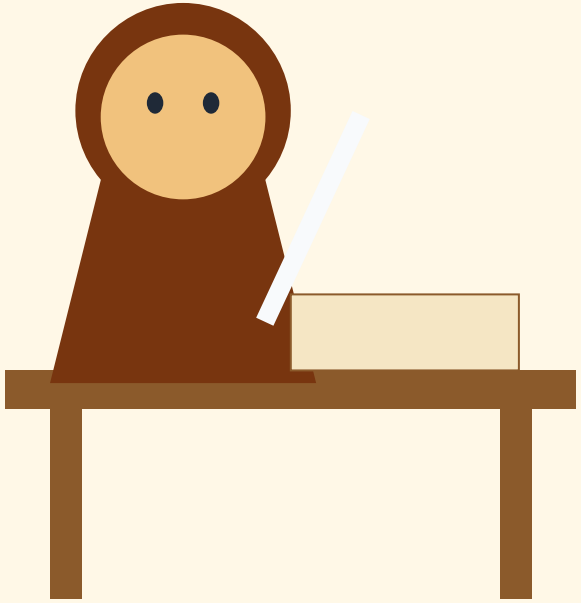
I can explain one way the printing press changed how information could be shared.

Do you remember...?

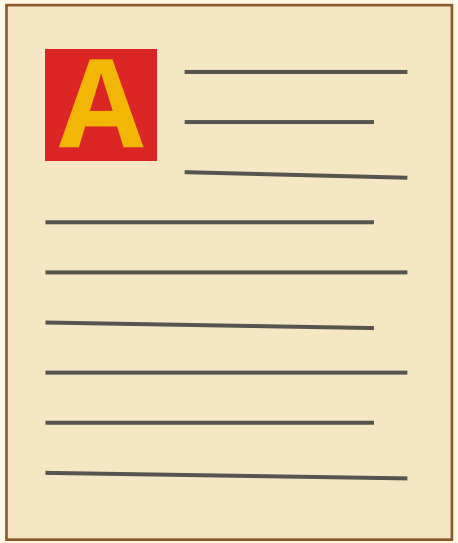
Who brought the printing press to Britain?	**William Caxton**
What does a printing press do?	**Prints words onto paper**
When did he bring it?	**In the 1470s**
Why are the letters back to front?	**So they print the right way round**

Before printing: books made by hand

- ★ Scribes copied every book by hand, letter by letter.
- ★ They used a quill pen and ink.
- ★ One book could take months, or even years!
- ★ So there were not many books, and they cost a LOT.



Handwritten page or printed page?



What is the same?
What is different?



Handwritten

Printed

Look closely: the lines, the letters, the colours…

Act it out: scribes vs printers!



Scribes: copy the sentence by hand



Printers: stamp the printing block

You have 2 minutes. How many copies can each team make of: "The king is coming!"

What changed?

BEFORE printing	AFTER printing
Books copied by hand	Books printed by a machine
Very slow	Much quicker
Only a few copies	Lots of copies
Very expensive	Cheaper

More books meant more people could share the same stories and ideas!

Who might have benefited?

Rich people
They could buy more books.

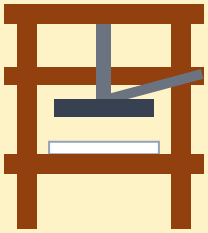
Churches
More copies of prayer books and Bibles.

Writers
More people could read their stories.

Poor people
Most still could not read or buy books.

Reading was still mainly for wealthy people.

Add it to our timeline!



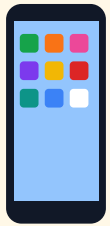
1476

The printing press comes to Britain



1876

The telephone



1973

The mobile phone



1989

The World Wide Web

Us! 2026

FUTURE?

Our key words

printing press
a machine that prints words onto paper

printing block
holds the letters or picture that you print

communicate
to share information

past
things that have already happened

What have we learned?

Year 1: The printing press made books more quickly.

Year 2: The printing press changed communication because more copies of books could be made quickly.

Say it to your partner, then say our chant: Communication means sharing information!

Teacher page: lesson plan (about 50 mins)

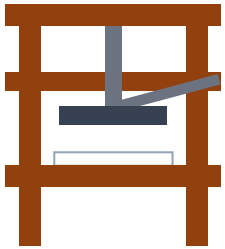
Time	Section	Slides
0–4	Title, chant, Year 1 / Year 2 goals	1–2
4–8	Recap: William Caxton and the printing press	3
8–14	Before printing: books made by hand	4
14–18	Compare a handwritten page with a printed page	5
18–28	Act it out: scribes vs printers, then count the copies	6
28–36	What changed? Before and after	7
36–42	Who might have benefited?	8
42–46	Add the printing press to the class timeline	9
46–50	Key words and plenary	10–11

Resources: a real or printed photo of a handwritten medieval page and a printed book page · paper and pencils for 'scribes' · a sentence stamp or homemade block for 'printers' · timer · the class timeline.
Optional extra: the printable before/after sort cards on slide 13 (cut out and sort into BEFORE and AFTER printing).

Printable sort cards: BEFORE printing or AFTER printing?



Books copied by hand



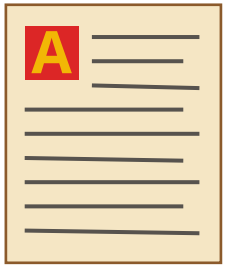
Books printed by a machine



Months to make one book



Lots of copies of the same page



Only a few books



Books cost less