



UKS2 History Knowledge and Skills Organiser

Furnaces of Fire

Key Knowledge and Skills

British Steel



British Steel is one of the leading steel manufacturers in Europe. This means they are one of the biggest companies to produce steel. They produce 3 million tonnes of steel each year. There are many different steel sites across the UK and Europe; one of which is our Scunthorpe Steel works.

Scunthorpe Steelworks



The British Steel headquarters are located in Scunthorpe with other important sites in Teeside and Skinningrove. All 3 are famous for their iron and steelmaking and are recognised across the globe for their steel products. Construction of the North Lincoln Ironworks began in 1866 and production still remains today in 2022.

How steel is made

Coal is heated at high temperatures to remove impurities and make 'coke'.

Materials are then fed into the hot furnace machines to create iron. The liquid iron is then mixed with scrap metal. High purity oxygen is blown onto the liquid metal and it is then poured into casting machines (moulds) to create different things.



The Impact of our British Steel

What has it been used to make?



The Sydney Harbour Bridge!



Wembley Stadium!

London Heathrow Terminal 5!



Istanbul Airport! And much more...

Key Vocabulary

Word	Definition
iron	A strong, hard, magnetic grey-metal.
steel	A metal mixture (alloy) of iron, carbon and other elements.
raw materials	A pure, unaltered material in its most basic form.
infrastructure	The basic, physical structure needed to create something (e.g machines, buildings and roads are infrastructures).
industry	The companies and activities involved in creating something to sell.
steel production	Turning raw materials and other elements into steel to be sold for other uses.
construction	The act of building or creating something (usually a large structure).
manufacture	To make something on a large scale (lots of it) using machinery.
contrasts	The obvious differences between two or more things.
primary sources	Something that gives us original information from a historical event (e.g artefacts, weapons, money and clothing).
secondary sources	Information that has been taken and interpreted from primary sources (E.g books, encyclopedias and articles).
Chronological	Something that follows the order in which events happened (e.g organised by times, dates and years).
Timeline	A chronological arrangement of events (in order).

A Historical Timeline of British Steel



1859
Ironstone was rediscovered by Rowland Winn on the Winn estate.

1866
Construction of the North Lincoln Ironworks began.



1890
Steel manufacturing began in Scunthorpe.

1905
The first ever blast furnace in Europe was built at Frodingham Iron and steel works.



1939
Queen Bess and Queen Mary blast furnaces first started making iron.

1954
Appleby Frodingham Ironworks built the new Queen Anne and Victoria blast furnaces.



1958
Queen visits.

1967
The Government bought all Iron and Steelworks to become BSC.



1973
The Anchor project was started to create a bigger steel making plant in Europe.

1988
British steel was sold and jobs were lost because plants closed.

2020
Jingye group bought British steel. More jobs were lost but the steelworks continues today.



