

Discover (2)

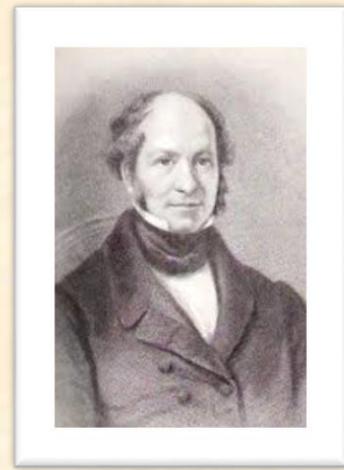
Activities for Kids



FOUNDED IN 1828

GLASNEVIN
CEMETERY MUSEUM

Who built Ireland's
first railway?



It was
William Dargan

Discover **Five Facts** about Dargan. Fill in the blank spaces using one of the words below! You can use the final page to check your answers.

1. Born in _____ in 1799.
2. He began his education in a local _____.
3. He trained in _____ and began to build _____ with a raised centre so that _____ would run off at the edges.
4. He built the first railway line in Ireland from Dublin city to _____.
5. In total he was responsible for building roughly _____ miles of railway track throughout Ireland!

Word Bank - Pick the correct word and finish the sentences above.

hedge school, roads, Laois, Britain, 1,000, Dún Laoghaire, water

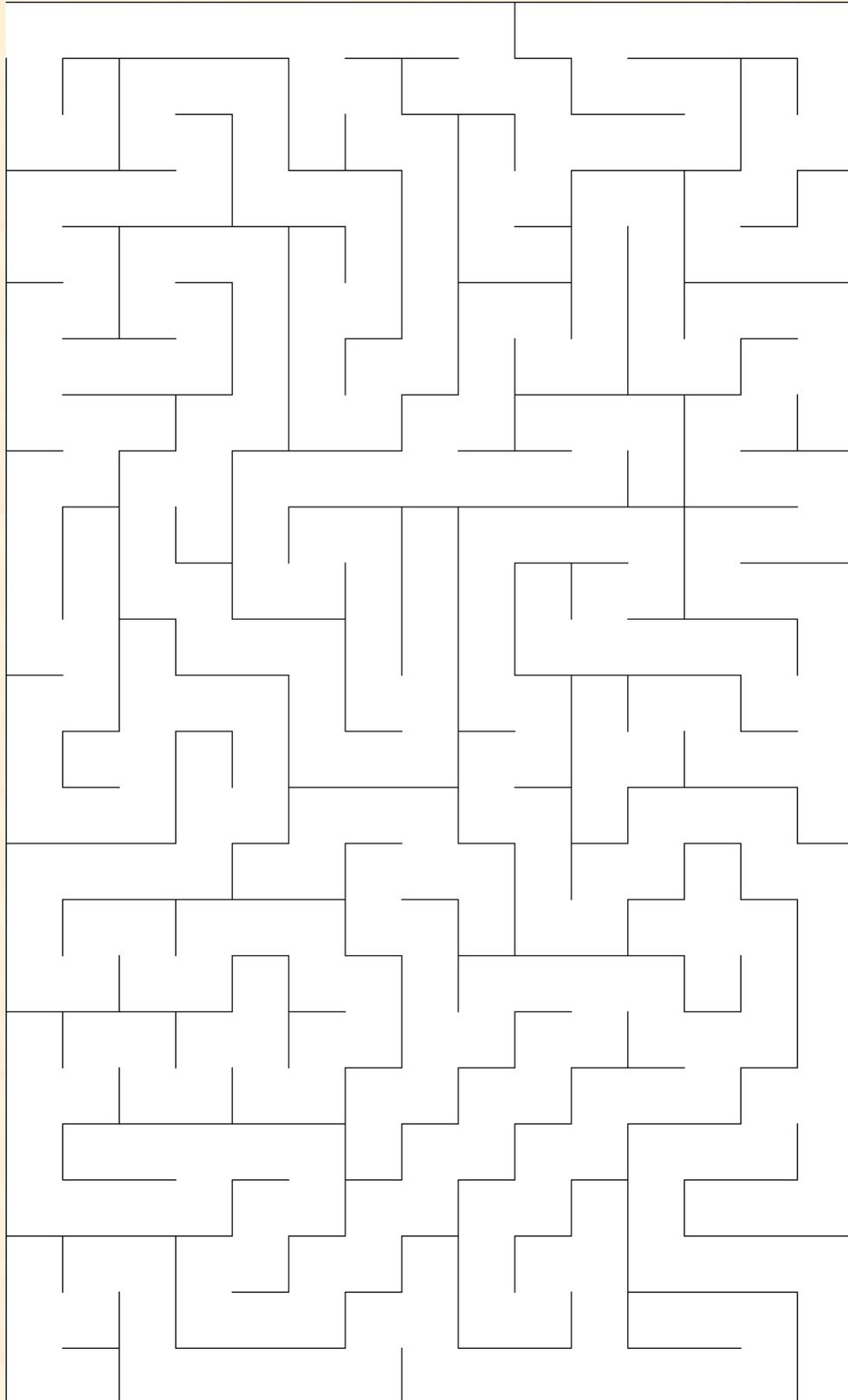
Did You Know?

There is a statue of William Dargan outside the National Gallery in Dublin. He donated money to help to open the Gallery. He died in 1867 and is buried in Glasnevin Cemetery.

If you want to find out more about hedge schools, this website has interesting information.
<http://www.askaboutireland.ie/learning-zone/primary-students/5th--6th-class/history/my-school-history/17th-and-18th-century-hed/hedge-schools/>

Map Your Journey

Can you navigate the train through the route below?



Finish

Get Creative at Home!

Make Your Own Train

Step 1 - There is probably a lot of cardboard at home, ready for the recycling bin! Take a look and see what you can gather! Begin to look at the different shapes of the cardboard that you have gathered. You may have rectangles, cylinders, squares and circles. If you use scissors, paint or glue, make sure that an adult is there to help you.

Look at the shapes of the cardboard

Small cereal box



Top of an egg carton



Kitchen paper roll

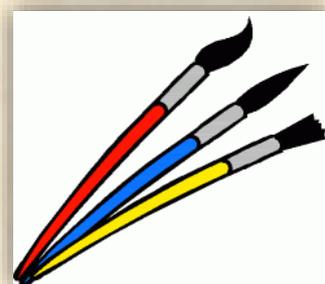


Milk carton

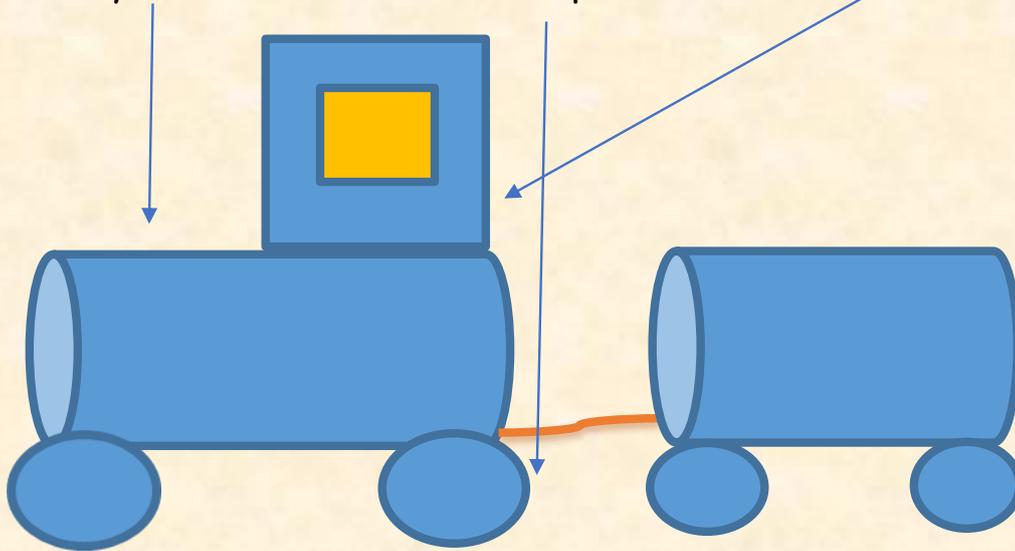


Step 2 - Decide how you will construct your train. The example (on the next page) uses cardboard in the shape of a small rectangle, a cylinder and some bottle caps as wheels!

Step 3 - Paint and add colour to the train pieces. You can add more designs at the end.



This example uses cardboard in the shape of a small rectangle, a cylinder and some bottle caps as wheels!



IDEA - Add extra carriages to your train with ribbon.

Step 4 - Stick the cardboard pieces in place. Ask an adult to help and use whatever materials you have at home - craft glue and sticky tape work well.

Step 5 - Add the finishing touches, any detail or special designs that you want to draw. You could add a number or a pattern to the train.

Well done - you created your own train and reused materials from home to do so! If you want to share this project ask a parent/guardian to send a photo to education@glasnevintrust.ie



More on William Dargan

(Check if your answers for filling in the blanks were correct!)

As the 'Father of Irish Railways', William Dargan shaped Ireland's development and became one of the leading engineers of the time. He was born in Co. Laois in 1799 and began his education at a local hedge school. He was very good at mathematics and went to work with the famous Scottish engineer, Thomas Telford. During his training, Dargan became an expert road builder and built roads with a raised centre. This made the roads strong and allowed rainwater to drain away.

The bustling port at Dún Laoghaire (called Kingstown at the time) was very busy and better ways to transport goods and passengers was needed. Dargan constructed the first railway line in Ireland from Westland Row (in Dublin city) to Dún Laoghaire. It opened in December 1834 and became the world's first commuter line. The present day Dún Laoghaire DART line runs along this route. He built almost 1,000 miles of rail line throughout Ireland!

As a result of the new rail network, transport and communication across Ireland improved. Dargan passed away on the 7th February 1867. His funeral was said to have been the largest in Dublin since the passing of Daniel O'Connell.

A new bridge (pictured) was opened in Dublin and titled the *William Dargan Bridge* in dedication to the 'Father of Irish Railways'.



Who was the first woman to be elected to the British Parliament? Keep posted for the answer in Activity Pack 3!