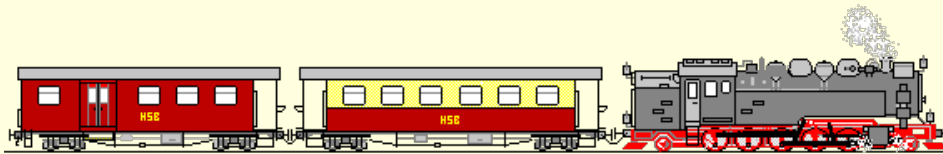


12th January 2021

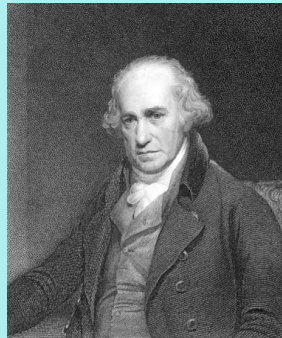
I can research the work of the mechanical design engineer  
- James Watt.



This term we are looking at mechanical systems. Such as gears and cams.

*Mechanical design engineers*

# James Watt



Have a look at this if you can.



<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/class-clips-video/science-ks2-discovering-the-work-of-James-Watt/zdqscqt>



James Watt was a British inventor who made great improvements to the steam engine. Although he is sometimes called the inventor of the steam engine, he in fact just made the steam engine much more useful.

Watt was born on January 19, 1736, in Greenock, Scotland. His father ran a ship- and house-building business. Watt spent much time in his father's workshops making models and learning about ships' instruments. In 1755 Watt moved to London to learn how to make mathematical instruments, such as compasses and scales. Two years later he opened an instrument workshop at the University of Glasgow. In addition to mathematical instruments, he also made musical instruments and toys.

In 1764 Watt was repairing a steam engine when he noticed that it wasted a lot of steam. He developed a way to improve the machine. He was given a patent for his steam engine in 1769. (A patent is an official document that gives inventors control over who may use their invention.)

In 1774 Watt moved to Birmingham, England. He then became business partners with Matthew Boulton. Watt developed a new engine that rotated a shaft, or rod, instead of providing the simple up-and-down motion of a pump. This innovation was especially useful in the textile industry. The partnership of Boulton and Watt lasted 25 years.

Watt became very wealthy from his inventions. He and Boulton were elected fellows of the Royal Society of London. Watt continued to work on his inventions after his retirement. He died on August 25, 1819, near Birmingham.

