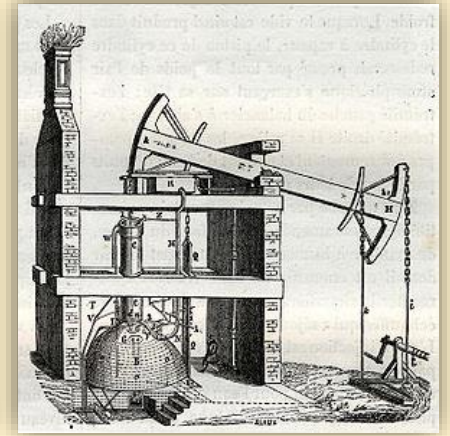


# Fun Facts about Steam Engines!

Steam engines were first invented by blacksmith Thomas Newcomen in 1705 but he used them to pump water out of mines!

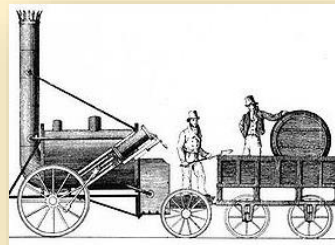


The fastest steam locomotive 'Mallard' could travel at 125 miles per hour. That's nearly twice as fast as a car on the motorway!

The first steam engines only had one pipe to carry the heat through the boiler. This didn't work as well so they now have lots!



If the water in the steam engine's boiler gets too low, the entire engine can explode!!



'Rocket' was the winner of the Rainhill Trials in 1829 and was chosen as the best steam locomotive to run the railways. It was designed by George Stephenson who eventually lived in Tipton, near Chesterfield!