You Can Be an Innovator ... Like Henry Ford Extension Activities

These extension activities provide additional opportunities for the eager learner curious about topics related to Henry Ford and the Model T.

Henry Ford's Story

Have students conduct further research using the digitized artifacts and resources in the Unit Plan, as well as books and websites suggested in the bibliography, to learn more about Henry Ford. Encourage students to develop presentations for their class to help others learn more about Henry Ford.

Natural Resources and the Automobile

Have students conduct additional research to identify which of the natural resources used in the Model T were renewable and which were nonrenewable. Find out how using these resources affected the environment. Find out both where the automobile industry gets natural resources today and about the impact this has on the environment.

Today's Innovators

To learn more about the innovators of today, explore websites about innovators and inventors, such as OnInnovation.com, TED.com or Invention.smithsonian.org, together as a class; or allow students to do so individually or with partners. Ask students to keep track of the innovations and innovators and their characteristics. Discuss with students. "What are some of the characteristics that have made these innovators successful?" For additional information, see "Advancing A Culture of Innovation," a speech by Patricia Mooradian, president of The Henry Ford.

Transportation Podcasts

Have your students listen to Transportation Podcasts created by Henry Ford Academy® (HFA) sophomores. HFA students researched and reported on compelling issues related to alternative fuels, transportation networks and more, using rap, talk shows and other fun formats. Ask students to produce their own podcasts on automobile and car-culture-related issues.

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