

## IN OUR COMMUNITY

### **LEVEL**

Level 3 – Level 4

### **ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION**

Students consider the perspectives of different people from the past. They read and hear oral histories and stories, whilst comparing and contrasting train journeys between volunteers from Puffing Billy Railway and their own family members.

### **THEME**

- Past and Present
- Community History

### **MATERIALS REQUIRED**

- “Oral History” worksheets
- Puffing Billy Website – <https://puffingbilly.com.au/volunteer/volunteer-stories/>
- Pen
- Homework Task: Interview

### **INSTRUCTIONS**

Find out what it means to be a volunteer at Puffing Billy by viewing and reading some of the stories and histories of volunteers at Puffing Billy Railway (see materials). After students read about some of the volunteer’s experiences at the Railway, they choose one person’s story and use this to complete the “Volunteer History” worksheet. Discuss with students the purpose of these interviews and stories. Distribute an “Oral History” worksheet to each student as a homework task. Students interview a family member or friend about their first train journey. They record their answers on the worksheet provided. When students have completed their oral

history interview, they write about the similarities and differences of the Puffing Billy Railway volunteers’ journey and their family members experience. Students present their work to the class in a short oral presentation.

### **SUGGESTIONS FOR ASSESSMENT**

Completed oral history worksheet from Puffing Billy volunteer. Completed oral history worksheet from family member interview. Assessment of short oral presentation.

### **CURRICULUM LINKS**

#### **ENGLISH**

Plan and deliver short presentations, providing some key details in logical sequence, using appropriate tone, pace, pitch and volume (VCELY276)

#### **HISTORY**

Describe perspectives of people from the past (VCHHC068)

### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

Link to Puffing Billy Volunteer Stories - <https://puffingbilly.com.au/volunteer/volunteer-stories/>

## **PUFFING BILLY RAILWAY VOLUNTEER – STORY AND HISTORY WORKSHEET**

Choose ONE of the volunteers' stories on the Puffing Billy Railway website to complete the worksheet below:

<p>What age is the volunteer?</p>	<p>What are their early memories of Puffing Billy Railway?</p>	<p>Who encouraged or influenced them to become involved in Puffing Billy Railway?</p>	<p>What role and job do they have with the railway?</p>
<p>What qualifications have they gained from Puffing Billy Railway?</p>	<p>What type of Locomotive do they work with?</p>	<p>Are they still volunteering at Puffing Billy?</p>	<p>What's one of their favourite things they have been involved with since volunteering at Puffing Billy Railway?</p>

## **ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEW WORKSHEET**

<p>What type of train did you travel on? Diesel, Steam, Electric</p>	<p>How old were you when you first travelled by train?</p>	<p>Where did your journey start and end?</p> <p>Start</p> <p>End</p>	<p>Who did you travel with? Who paid for the ticket?</p>
<p>How long was the journey?</p>	<p>What did you eat?</p>	<p>Why were you travelling on Puffing Billy?</p>	<p>What was your favourite memory of the journey?</p>