



Build a Canal Workshop

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f **Facebook:** Canal & River Trust – Explorers
t **Twitter:** @CRTE Explorers
canalrivertrust.org.uk/explorers
Charity no. 1146792

200 Years ago

Our story begins over 200 years ago, before proper roads, railways, electricity, or flushing toilets!

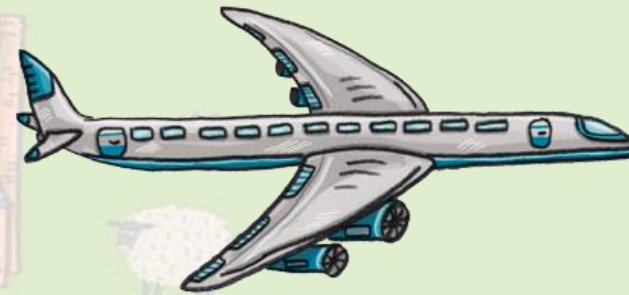
Can you **imagine** what life would have been like?



The Business Owners

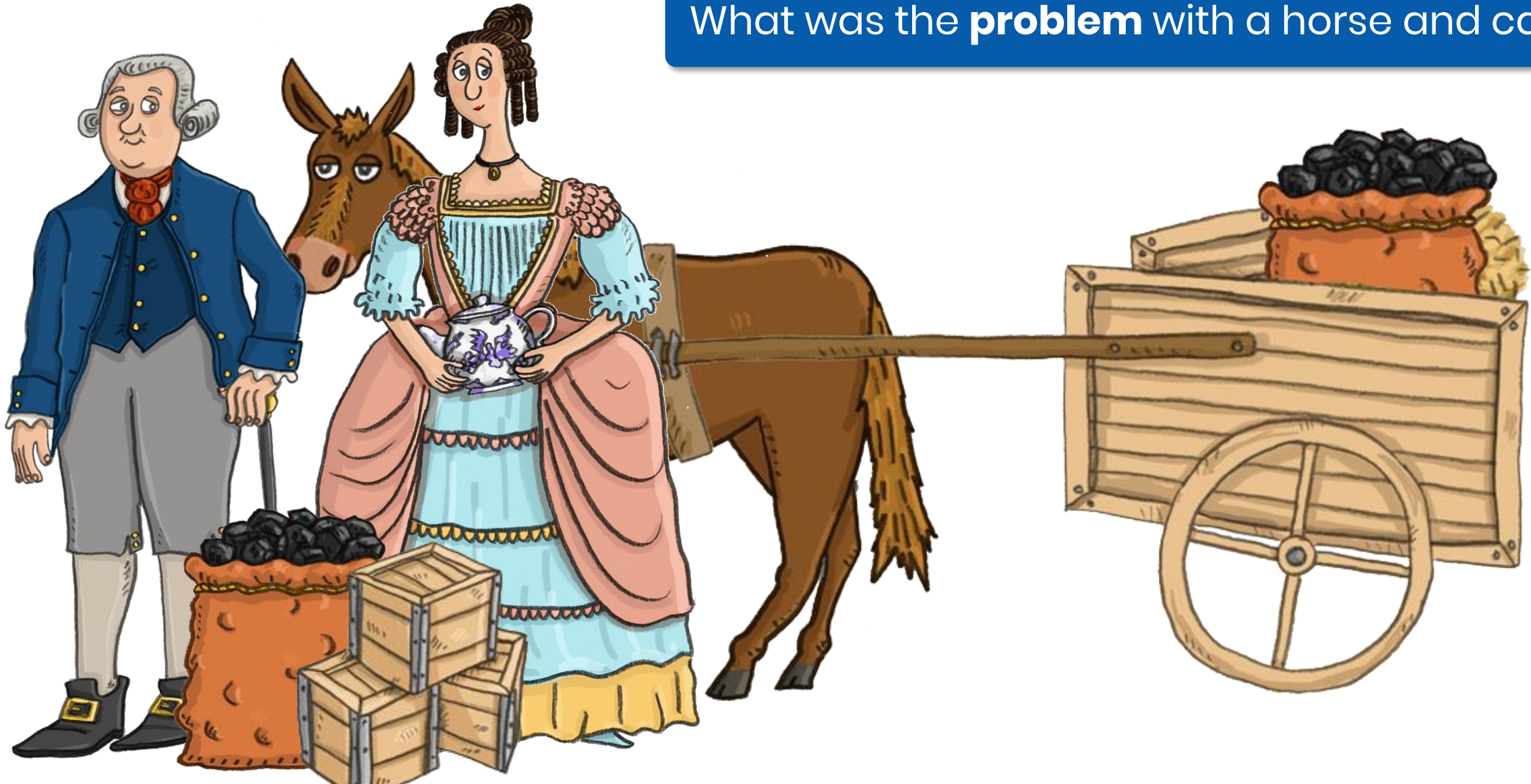
These business owners needed to get their goods to markets and customers.

How do you think they did it?



Horse and Carts

What was the **problem** with a horse and cart?



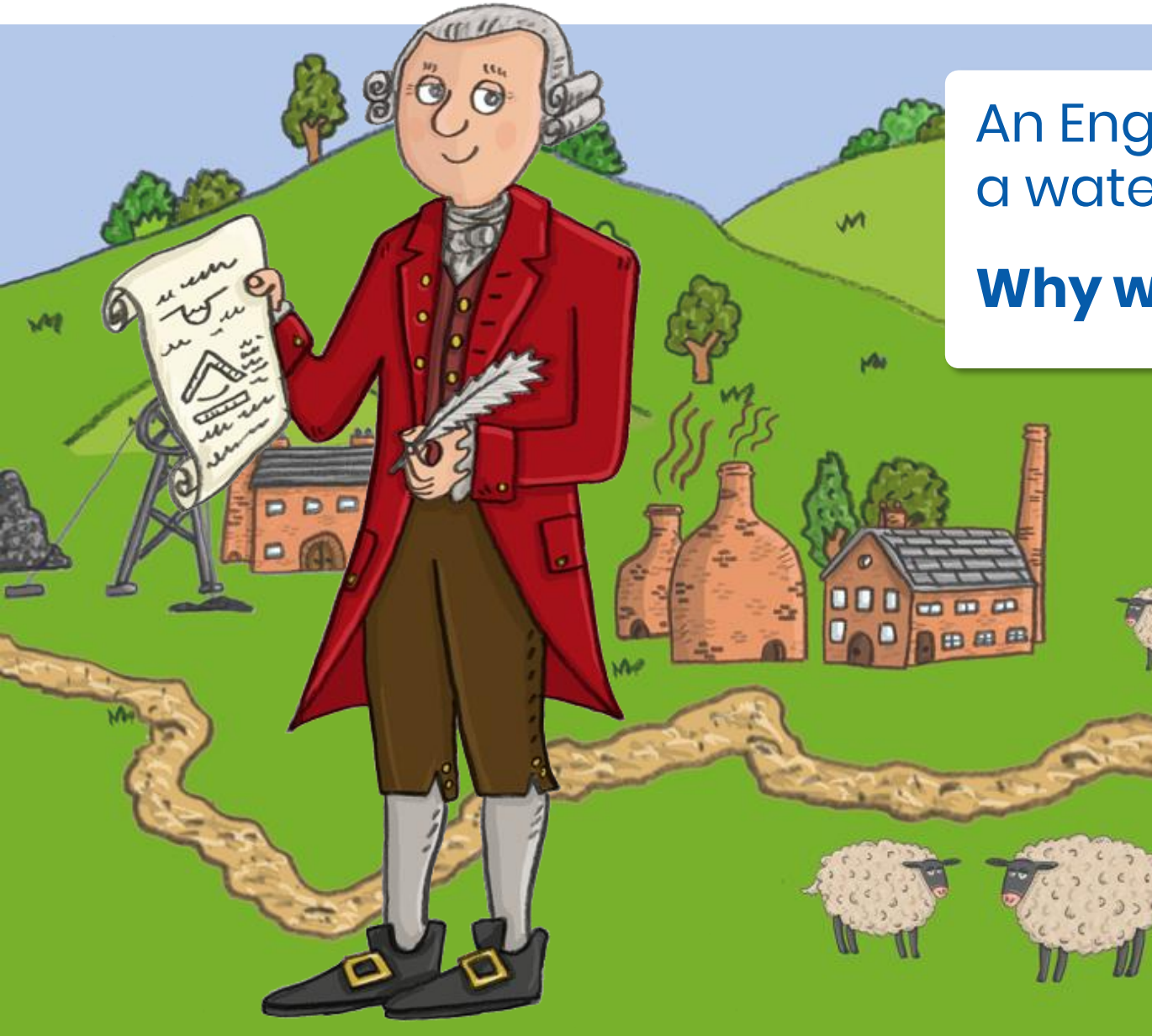
Engineering Idea

An Engineer had the brilliant idea to build a waterway for transporting goods.

Why was this such a good idea?

Was it because...

- it allowed people to have a swim?
- transporting on a boat was much smoother?
- boats can carry more than a cart?
- a canal looks nicer than a road?



Digging the Canal

Navvies were employed to dig out the ditch for the canal. They had no special machinery and it was hard, slow work.

What tools did the navvies use?

- JCB diggers?
- Shovels?
- Bulldozers?
- Pickaxes?



Waterproofing the Canal

When the digging was done the channels had to be made waterproof!

But How?



Puddling

The channels were lined with **clay**. The clay was packed down by trampling over it.

This was done by adults, children and farm animals!



All Aboard!

Now the canal can be filled with water.
But how are the boats going to move?



The Canal is Complete!

Horses were used to pull the boats along.

The canals helped businesses and towns to grow and develop.

Goods could even be transported to **ports**, ready to be shipped around the world.



Great Work!

You've seen how canals had a **big** impact on people, jobs and development.

Think about what we use the canals for today –
Why are they still so important?

See our ['Build a Canal Learning Bundle'](#) for more fun activities.

