

Railroad Exhibit

In the 1880s paddle steamboats helped move freight and passengers along the Indian River. Henry Flagler ran several steamboat lines to help support the construction of his railroads. People along the Indian River convinced Flagler to extend the railroad south to Daytona. By 1892 Flagler's Jacksonville, St. Augustine, and Indian River Railway Company reached New Smyrna and Titusville, and Cocoa and Rockledge in 1893. In 1908 Flagler became tired of maintaining his railway from the East Coast Railways mainline to Rockledge and tried to buyout the owners of the hotels who refused. On a Sunday morning when no judges were available Flagler sent a crew of workers to removed .6 miles of the track.

Flagler extended his railroad system farther south to Miami due to the severe freezes of 1894 and 1895. In 1895 the expanding of the rail line was renamed the Florida East Coast Railway before the completion of the rail construction south of Palm Beach. The hotels in Palm Beach became the winter resorts for the wealthy.

Flagler first visited Florida in 1878 and he saw the potential for a winter resort in Florida. In 1885 Flagler's first venture was the construction of the grand hotel Ponce De Leon in St. Augustine. His first major railway acquisition was the Jacksonville, St. Augustine, and Halifax railroad. Piece by piece Flagler acquired and joined existing lines.

Objectives:

Fourth Grade:

Record observations and raise appropriate questions about trains.

Describe the contributions of Henry Flagler.

Summarize impact of Flagler's railroads on Florida.

Understand how to find the area of a rectangle using the base x height = area formula.

Science:

SC.4.N.1.6 Keep records that describe observations made, carefully distinguishing actual observations from ideas and inferences about the observations.

Write down observations you make and questions you have about trains after running the model train along the track.

Social Studies:

SS.4.A.6.3 Describe the contributions of significant individuals to Florida.

Describe the contributions of Henry Flagler.

Reading and Language Arts:

LA.4.4.2.1 The student will write in a variety of informational/expository forms (e.g., summaries, procedures, recipes, instructions, graphs/tables, experiments, rubrics, how-to manuals);

Summarize the impact that Flagler's railroads had on Florida.

Mathematics:

MA.4.G.3.2 Justify the formula for the area of the rectangle "area = base x height".

Imagine that a railroad track is in the shape of a rectangle with the given dimensions. What is the area of the rectangle?

