



# DR DAVID LIVINGSTONE

The content relating to David Livingstone consists of four episodes, each 4 to 5 minutes long, which can be listened to individually or sequentially. A synopsis of each episode clip is below.

## Lesson plan:

### Learning intention 'We are learning to...'

We are learning to understand exploration and mapping in the Victorian era.

### Assessment criteria 'What I'm looking for...'

As an outcome I am looking for a labelled free-hand map of the continent of Africa, noting the River Nile and the River Zambezi.

Share and discuss a listening focus for each episode by asking the key question and instructing the children to make the following notes.

Resources needed: note-making paper and pencil.

## 3. The Smoke that Thunders

Before listening: one key fact to discuss

- Exploring. In the Victorian era many parts of the world were uncharted. The only way to make maps was to visit a place and draw a map of your journey.

Discussion question: 'How do we make and use maps differently nowadays?' (Aerial photographs and satellite photography allow exploration and mapping without having to visit.)

During listening: one question to focus on

- Key question: 'How and why did Dr. Livingstone become an explorer?'
- Instruction: 'Write down the things that led Dr. Livingstone to explore Africa.'
- (Answers: He began as a missionary and as a doctor; he wanted to be the first person to map and describe the land that he explored.)

## 2. 'Dr Livingstone, I presume?'

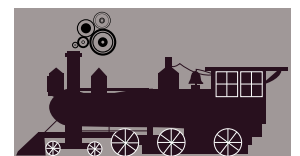
Before listening: one key fact to discuss

- The Source of the Nile. The River Nile flows north from central Africa through Egypt to the Mediterranean Sea. In the Victorian era the place where the river started was unknown.

Discussion question: 'What do you think might have made it difficult to find the place where the river starts?' (The river is hundreds of miles long; giant swamps and waterfalls made the course of the river hard to follow.)

During listening: one question to focus on

- Key question: 'Why did Mr. Stanley go looking for Dr. Livingstone?'
- Instruction: 'Write down the reasons why Mr. Stanley was looking for Dr. Livingstone.'
- (Answers: Livingstone was a famous man who had not been heard of for two years; Stanley was a reporter for a newspaper and he wanted to write about what had happened to Livingstone.)





### 3. Livingstone's journals: the discovery of Victoria Falls

Before listening: one key fact to discuss

- Writing style. It was important for Dr Livingstone to write about what he discovered so that people could find out about it. In the Victorian era cameras were still rare and difficult to use. It was difficult to take photographs. So it was important for Dr Livingstone to describe what he saw so that people remembered it.

Discussion question: 'What amazing landscapes or sights have you seen?' (Mountains, lakes, tourist attractions, the seaside.)

During listening: one question to focus on

- Key question: 'What do you think the Falls look like?'
- Instruction: 'Sketch the waterfall that Dr Livingstone describes.'
- (Answers: Sketches that represent islands in the river as well as river banks, rocks and rapids, a wide fall of water and water vapour rising like smoke at the foot of the falls.)

### 4. Stanley's journals: the meeting with Dr Livingstone

Before listening: one key fact to discuss

- Writing style. Mr Stanley was looking for Dr Livingstone so he could write about him for a newspaper. It was important for Stanley to write down everything he noticed about finding Livingstone.

Discussion question: 'If you were a newspaper reader, what would you like to know about finding the lost explorer?'

(What he looked like, if he was well, where he was staying, who he was with, what it was like when he was found, etc.)

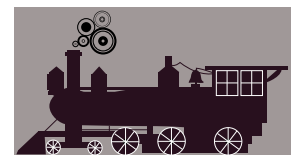
During listening: one question to focus on

- Key question: 'What does Stanley do to let Livingstone and the local village people know he and his men are coming into the village?'
- Instruction: 'Make a note of what happens when Stanley arrives at the African village where Livingstone is staying.'
- (Answers: Stanley's group wave flags, shoot guns into the air and introduce themselves to the people that come to greet them.)

### After listening

Activity: An atlas or large map projected on an interactive white board showing the rivers of Africa would usefully support this activity. Sketch an outline of the African continent and draw the Zambezi and the Nile Rivers in their correct places. Use an atlas or a map of Africa find the rivers. Make sure you mark and label:

- Africa - The name of the continent
- The River Nile - including lakes and waterfalls. This river flows from central Africa, north to Egypt
- The River Zambezi - this river flows through areas of southern Africa
- Countries that the rivers flow through: Egypt, Zambia.





## Differentiation and teacher support for SEN / Focus group / Whole class

Teacher to demonstrate how to draw the outline of Africa on paper or a white board to provide starting points and key ideas for learners who need support.

### Challenge for gifted and talented learners

Can you locate name and add to your map the other countries that the rivers flow through?

## Plenary and assessment

In table groups or as a class, share and compare finished maps. Give the children an opportunity to improve their drawings or after making comparisons.

## Episode synopses

This programme tells of two significant events in the life of the Victorian explorer, Dr David Livingstone: a) his exploration of the Zambezi River in South Africa and his discovery of the Victoria Falls; b) the occasion when he met Henry Stanley, an American journalist and explorer, who went to search for Dr Livingstone after he had been missing in Africa for two years.

### 1. The Smoke that Thunders

Dr David Livingstone first went to Africa as a missionary in 1840, aged 27. After 15 years he has also become an explorer and recalls an occasion when he and his team set out to explore one of Africa's biggest rivers, the Zambezi. They had pitched camp for the night and Dr Livingstone told Mothusi, his helper, about the time when he was attacked by a lion and how his arm was permanently damaged in the ensuing tussle.

Mothusi remarked that the doctor would need all his strength to canoe along the river to the waterfall known as Mosi-oa Tunya, or 'The Smoke that Thunders'.

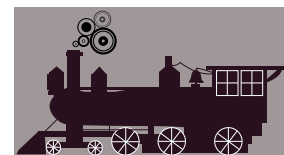
When they caught sight of the falls, the doctor was amazed by their magnificence, but Mothusi pointed out that they could not get any closer because the river currents were too dangerous.

The doctor did not want to put his team's lives in danger, but he was determined to reach the falls, so decided to continue alone. As the first European to witness this sight, he owed it to his Queen and country to describe it in detail, and to tell the world of 'Victoria's Falls'.

### 2. 'Dr Livingstone, I presume?'

Henry Morton Stanley, American journalist and explorer, visits Westminster Abbey in 1889 to pay his respects at the tomb of Dr David Livingstone, and recalls how he first met the famous explorer. Livingstone had not been heard of for two years and Stanley had travelled to Africa to try to find him. Finally he found the village where Livingstone was living.

Stanley was shocked at the doctor's appearance; although he would not yet have been 60, he looked a much older man. Livingstone was eager for news, as he had become cut off from the outside world, and was staggered to learn that Stanley had travelled so far especially to find him. He explained to Stanley that he could not yet return home as there was still somewhere he wanted to explore, the source of the River Nile. For a while Stanley accompanied him on his mission, but eventually had to return home, where he heard the news of Livingstone's death.





### 3. Livingstone's journals: the discovery of Victoria Falls

An extract from Dr Livingstone's journals, in which he describes his journey down the Zambezi River to see the Mosi-oa-tunya falls, which were later named Victoria Falls. There are dangerous currents, rapids and rocks along the river, making the journey by canoe extremely hazardous. However, the glorious scenery is well worth the risk and Livingstone struggles to do it justice in his description of the magnificent waterfalls.

### 4. Stanley's journals: the meeting with Dr Livingstone

An extract from Henry Stanley's journals, in which he describes the moment when he came face to face with Dr Livingstone. Stanley had looked forward to the meeting for so long, and when he first caught sight of him, he would have liked to embrace him, but in the presence of so many onlookers, he decided to greet him more formally, with the words: 'Dr Livingstone, I presume?' The use of these famous words is recorded by Stanley only; Livingstone makes no mention of them in his own journals.

