

## Teaching Notes:

# The Matilda Effect

By Ellie Irving

## Suggestions for Follow-up work

- Page 1 *If you give up, it means you never really wanted something in the first place.* Is this true?
- Page 2 *Marvellicifous.* Can you make up some words yourself to describe something you a) really like and b) really dislike?
- Page 6 *Thomas Edison; Isambard Kingdom Brunel; Emily Cummins; Mary Anderson* – can you find out more about each of these inventors? Discuss whose invention you think was the most important and why?
- Page 7-8 Matilda invented *The Tinsel Twizzler* –What would you invent and why? Draw a diagram to show your invention. Have a balloon debate with your friends to see whose invention wins.
- Page 11 *EGGSHELL 77345993* – Can you invent some words by typing the number in your calculator and holding it upside down?
- Page 12 Design the form for entry to the Arnos Yarm Comprehensive Science Competition. What rules would you have?
- Page 15 Write Thomas Thomas's speech of acceptance for winning the Science Competition with the coca cola experiment. Find out what Leonardo da Vinci and Tim Berners Lee invented
- Page 17 Put a coin in some coca cola and observe and report what happens. Set it up and write it out as a Science Experiment. See if your friend can follow your instructions to replicate the experiment. Design some other investigations you could write up as science experiments for your friends to try.
- Page 22 Find out about the Path of the River Thames. Can you draw a map of your favourite part?
- Page 24 Write a character sketch of an older person you know. Draw them.
- Page 25 *Extraceedingly* – another made-up word.
- Describe your parents or guardians.

- Page 37 Write an official letter of complaint to the Nobel Prize Board about Granny Joss Moore being deprived by Professor Smocks of her discovery prize of her planet?

Write the reply from the Nobel Prize Board explaining why they are sticking to their decision.

- Page 53 What would you put in a rucksack to take to Sweden? List all your items. Remember you will have to carry them on your back!
- Find out what a “patent” is. Do you think they are a good idea, and why?
- Page 53/4 *Ellen MacArthur* – Find out everything you can about her round-the-world trip. do you admire and why?
- Page 55 The Periodic Table – find out what it is. Choose one chemical element and find its symbol and find out all you can about its properties.
- Page 60 Women in World War II. Find out what women did on the Home Front in World War II. Which job would you have liked to do, and why?
- Page 76 Write a newspaper report about Joe Squires’ milk float travelling down the motorway at 10mph include the reporter’s name, an interview with a witness, a picture and a caption. Think of a good Headline and a Sub-Heading half way through to keep people’s interest in your story.
- Page 77 Write some Fascinating Facts for your Town or Village. Put them in a Poster of your design to attract tourists to your area.
- Page 105-110 Was Mickey right to get a lift? Is it the taking part that matters? Is it different if it is for a charity?
- Page 159 Write what Brian/Philippe’s speech should have been.
- Page 161/2 List the facts about the Eiffel tower.
- Page 217 Ask an older person about their youth and write it out as an Interview.
- Page 234 Find out all you can about Alfred Nobel and write it as a paragraph in a book on Famous People.
- Page 277 *The Matilda Effect – to deny the contribution of female scientists in research, instead attributing it to male colleagues.* What effect would you like named after you and why?
- Page 285 Draw the route suggested by the text.
- Page 287-293 Which Scientist, Inventor or Engineer in History do you admire most and why? Debate with your friends to promote your best one.
- Page 288 Find out what all the initials after Tim Berners-Lee’s name stand for. Which one do you think he would be most proud of and why?
- Page 292 Find out the names of the planets in our solar system and learn them.
- Page 296-302 Do the experiments!

- Page 304 Find out about the constellations The Plough; Orion's Belt; the North Star. Draw them and see if you can identify them at night. Make sure you have an adult with you in the dark!

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