

Collection of summaries from each bubble for The Antikythera Mechanism.

Alison's summary Bubble X

Claire introduced the topic via Teams call to the group. We watched the you tube clip and looked at the info pack Claire had given us. We talked about puzzles, and fitting things together – both pieces found in the wreck, and the puzzle of what they might mean, how it might have worked. We had a go at a tessellation puzzle, and then the learners tried making their own tessellation puzzles using squared paper. It was very hard to put the pieces back together again after they had been cut up!

The second week we looked at a hand drill which used cog wheels to turn the drill bit to make a hole in a piece of wood (I brought this in from home). We also watched a video of how a clock works with cog wheels, and also the large cogs which make a windmill grind stones work. We then had a go at making our own cog wheels and using a pin board tried to get several turning each other – we found it was important to have precise cogs cut! But we did manage to get them to turn part way.

Everyone really enjoyed doing the practical parts of this activity, but also they had remembered some of the story behind the divers finding the Antikythera Mechanism.

Bubble B summary Antikythera Mechanism

We started off by watching the short video on the Antikythera mechanism and what it was about, Sara and Pam were really interested, this was followed by the start of the art work with colouring in the cogs, cutting them out and backing onto card to make them 3D. Sarah and Pam talked about different ideas with staff and we made a plan about what the finished picture would have on it and set about making it. Along the way the clients looked at the laminated pictures of the Antikythera mechanism to help them make their art piece with the

divers and cogs. Along the way we kept discussing what the project was about and Sara and Pam remembered some of the main points. Other clients watched on from a distance and were involved at their own level.

Bubble Y summary

First, we all watched the YouTube video about the finding of the Antikythera Mechanism. We had a chat about what we thought it was and how it could work. Luke then helped to read out the fun facts about it. We chatted about how amazing this find was and how long ago it had been created. The learners were intrigued by the ability of the divers back then. We then had a go at our own puzzles. They had been previously cut and it was very difficult to put them back together but we managed. The learners painted different parts to the puzzles to see if could make it easier or harder to put back together. We then had a go at cutting out some cogs which proved quite difficult as the precision had to be spot on and also getting them to turn together was a challenge. All items were put on an interactive board. We did enjoy this task and found the idea of something that was so very old, was so accurate and yet had been lost for years.