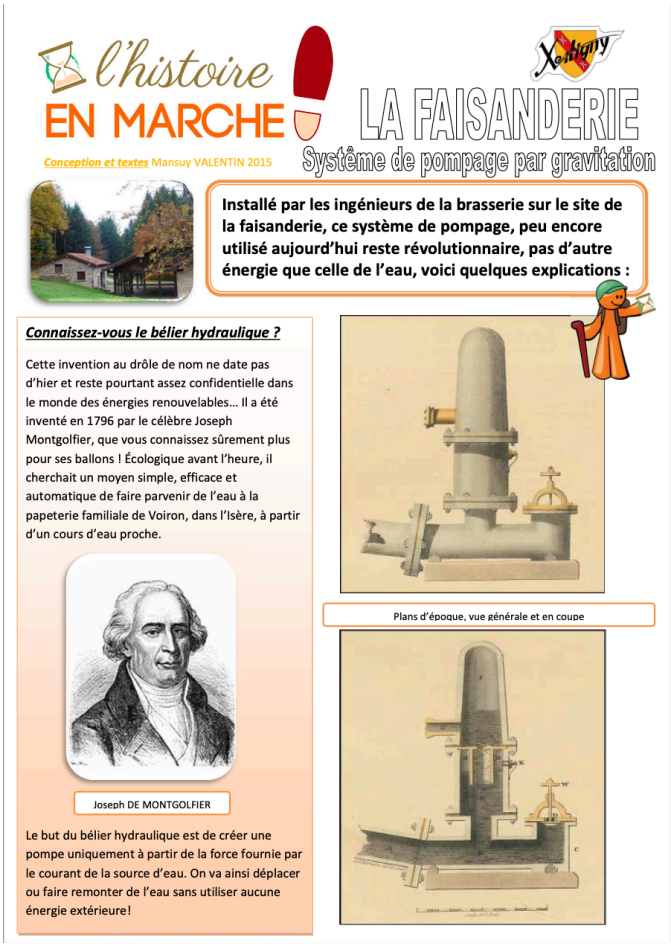
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#economy #energy

The waterworks: a gravity-fed pumping system (hydraulic ram)



Have you heard of the hydraulic ram?

This invention with the funny name isn't exactly new, yet it remains relatively unknown in the world of renewable energy... It was invented in 1796 by the famous Joseph Montgolfier, whom you probably know better for his hot-air balloons! An environmentalist ahead of his time, he was looking for a simple, efficient, and automatic way to bring water from a nearby stream to his family's paper mill in Voiron, in the Isère region.

The purpose of the hydraulic ram is to create a pump using only the force provided by the flow of the water source. This allows water to be moved or lifted without using any external energy!

Liens

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