

Knowledge Organiser

History: The Victorians

Year 6 AUTUMN TERM

In the history of the United Kingdom, the Victorian era was the period of Queen Victoria's reign, from 20 June 1837 until her death on 22 January 1901. During this time, Great Britain continued to spread its influence round the world; the Empire grew to cover a staggering quarter of the globe. This time also saw a wide range of changes, most notably the industrial revolution, where the invention of machinery for factories and transportation like the steam locomotive changed how people lived and worked like never before.

Enquiry Questions

Question 1

What was life like in Victorian Britain for children?

Answer:

Life changed a lot during the Victorian times. The industrial revolution led to lots of people moving from work in rural areas to working in factories in the city.

Question 2

How did the Victorian period change the world?

Answer:

The Victorian period was a time of great change in the way people lived in the towns, cities and countryside of the country. The great changes in technology during this time led to wide swathes of the population moving into towns and cities and led to the advancement of industry and medicine.

Question 3

What was life like for children during the Victorian times?

Answer:

Children from poor backgrounds were often sent out to work in a wide range of different jobs. Due to their small size and low wages they were highly sought after by employers who would hire them to work in roles such as factory workers, street sweeps, chimney sweeps and many others.

Children from wealthy families were often spoiled, however, their lives were often very affectionless as they were nearly always looked after by nannies and spent their days in a monotonous routine where they would only see their parents at certain points of the day.

Question 4

How did the railways impact the Victorians?

Answer:

The development of the steam engine was the tool that propelled the country into the industrial revolution. It made the manufacturing of goods more efficient, producing products more rapidly than ever before, and allowed the middle class to gain wealth to invest in various businesses, most notably, the railways.

Question 5

How was crime and punishment different during the Victorian times?

Answer:













Death was a punishment used for only the worst of Victorian Criminals and was used only for murderers and traitors under the rule of Queen Victoria. A huge effort was being made in the 19th century to use imprisonment as a punishment wherever possible rather than capital punishment.

Timeline

1838	Queen Victoria crowned aged 18.
1840	Queen Victoria married Prince Albert.
1842	Children under 10 can no longer work in underground mines.
1844	Children aged 8-13 can no longer work for more than 6.5 hours per day.
1856 E	Each county has to have its own police force.
1861	Prince Albert died of typhoid.
1864	Children under 10 can no longer work
1870	Schools are built for children
1872	The first FA Cup Final takes place.

1880	The Education Act makes schooling
1901	Queen Victoria dies and Edward VII

Key information

Key Inventions			
1800s- Railway Network	1838- Photography	1840- Penny Black Stamp	1843- Christmas Cards
			
1852- British Pillar Post Box	1852- Public Flushing Toilet	1863- London Underground Railway	1872- The Penny-Farthing Bicycle
			
1876- Telephone	1879- Electric Bulb	1885- Petrol Motor Car	1895- X-rays
			

The Industrial Revolution

- A period of huge change in Britain between 1750 and 1900.
- Before the **Industrial Revolution**, Britain was a **rural** country, most people lived off the land with **livestock**.
- People began to realise that coal and steam could be used to power factories, large machines, flour and cotton mills. This reduced the time it took to make something and increased the amount that could be made and so the **Industrial Revolution** began.
- Huge factories were built and towns expanded.
- People would **migrate** to the towns attracted by reliable work and pay from the factories.
- Houses for workers were built closer to the factories.
- Better transport links helped boost trade by transporting people and goods quickly and cheaply all across the country.



Key Vocabulary

arithmetic	Learning about maths and numbers.
Industry	A group of companies that all produce the same thing.
Industrial revolution	A time of major change in the way products were made.
Invention	A new thing that someone has made.
Livestock	Farm animals
Migrate	Move to a different area to find work or better living conditions.
Reign	To control a country.
Rural	Countryside
Revolution	A big change in something.
Typhoid	A bacterial infection that can spread throughout the body.

Useful websites

Railways
Children

<https://worldwiderails.com/railways-during-the-victorian-era/>
<https://victorianchildren.org/victorian-children-in-victorian-times/>