

Year 5: Autumn 2

The Life of a Victorian Child



Key Dates

KEY DATES	
1819	Victoria is born
1837	Victoria became Queen, aged 18, and the Houses of Parliament were built
1840	Victoria married Prince Albert and the first postage stamps came into use.
1841	The Great Western Railway from Bristol to London was completed.
1842	The Mines Act stopped children under 10 working in the mines
1844	The Factory Act stopped children between 8 and 13 working more than 6 ½
1850	Workhouses opened to try to help the poorest people
1852	The first public toilet was opened in London
1861	Prince Albert died
1863	The first underground railway opened in London and the Football Association was founded
1864	A law banned boys under 10 from working as chimney sweeps
1870	Schools were provided for children aged 5-10
1876	The telephone was invented
1880	The Education Act made it compulsory for all children aged 5-10 to go to school
1883	The first electric railway
1901	Queen Victoria died

Vocabulary

British Empire: Countries/ lands that Britain controlled around the world.

Factory Acts: Laws passed by the government to protect people working in dangerous factories.

Industrialization: Is the process by which an economy changes from an agricultural one to one based on manufacturing in mills and factories.

Ragged Schools: A school for poor children to attend.

Trap: A wooden door which was opened and closed to let fresh air into mines.

Workhouses: Places set up by the government to where poor people with no money could go and be given a bed, food and work.

What I already know:

Year 1

To identify toys that were used in Victorian times and to understand the significances of Florence Nightingale and Mary Seacole in the Crimean War.

Year 2

To understand what a monarch is and the qualities needed to be a good monarch. To compare the lives between Elizabeth I and Queen Victoria.

Year 3

Place events on a timeline using dates and investigating artefacts (e.g. Stone Age/Ancient Egyptians)

Year 4

Use evidence to build up a picture of life in a period of history and using maps to show Britain invasions. (e.g. Anglo-Saxons, The Romans)

What I will learn now:

Year 5

- To find out what life was like for poor Victorian children.
- To understand the impact of workhouses.
- To understand the changes that took place for poor Victorian Children.
- To compare modern and Victorian schooling.

Key Facts

Jobs done by Victorian children were dangerous, dirty, tiring and poorly paid. Children suffered many accidents, fell ill easily and many lost their lives. During the Victorian period there was a gradual raising of awareness of the poor working conditions that children were subjected to. The government began passing laws to try and improve the situation and make sure children went to school instead.

What I will learn next:

Year 6

Science: Famous Victorian naturalist Charles Darwin – links to our humans and animals work in science.