

History- The Victorians

Queen Victoria



- To investigate and interpret the past.
- To build an overview of world history
- To understand chronology.
- To communicate historically.



Victorian Toys

- Some popular Victorian toys were rocking horses, dolls, hoops, marbles, spinning tops and puppets.
- They also enjoyed playing hopscotch, charades, tug-of-war and pin the tail on the donkey
- Poor families often made their own toys such as paper windmills and cloth peg dolls.

Child Labour

- Poor children had to work to support their families and were not educated.
- The jobs were poorly paid and unsafe.
- Jobs included chimney sweeps, domestic servants, factory workers, farm hands and working in coal mines.
- They worked long hours and there were no laws to protect them.
- Some poor children were sent to live and work in the Workhouse.

School

- Schools were not free until 1891.
- Usually only rich boys attended.
- There were no school lunches.
- Children studied reading, writing and arithmetic (the three Rs)

Daily Life

- Middle and upper class families had maids and servants to help them with the chores of looking after the house.
- Canned food was invented during Victorian times as well as the light bulb, telephone and radio.
- The father was seen as the head of the family
- A mother was expected to look after the home.

Timeline of key events

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| 1837: Victoria became queen | 1876: Telephone invented by Alexander Graham Bell |
| 1838: Photographs taken and exhibited by William Henry Fox-Talbot | 1878: Electric street lighting used in London for the first time |
| 1840: First postage stamp issued | 1879: Electric light bulb invented |
| 1856: Henry Bessemer invented a way to convert iron into steel | 1887: Gramophone invented |
| 1863: Underground trains ran in London for the first time | 1888: John Dunlop invented the pneumatic tyre |

| Key Vocabulary | Definition |
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| Workhouse | A place where poor people were sent to live and work. They were like prisons and people were treated very badly. |
| Industrial Revolution | The 'Industrial Revolution' began in the 18 th century and describes the transition from a society based on hand manufacturing and human or animal power, to a society based on machinery. |
| Urbanisation | Industrialisation caused people to move (migrate) from the countryside to towns and cities |
| Exploit | To make use of something in a way which is considered unfair or underhand. |
| Welfare | The health, happiness and fortunes of a person. |
| Status | Social or professional position. |
| Adequate | Satisfactory or acceptable in quality. |

Industrial Revolution

- Britain changed from a rural country with small industries to a highly industrialised and wealthy nation.
- People realised they could use coal and steam to power large machines.
- Most people lived in towns, near to the factories.
- Working in the factories was very difficult.