

Key Vocabulary

Acts – laws passed by government to improve working or living conditions.

British Empire – lands that Great Britain controlled all over the world.

Era – a long and distinct period of history.

Heir – person next in line to the throne.

Industrial Revolution – a time of major change in the way products were made.

Industry – a group of companies that all produce the same thing.

Invention – a new thing that someone has made.

Monarch – a leader of a country e.g. A king or queen.

Poverty – the state of being very poor.

Reformer - a person who makes changes in order to improve things.

Reign – the time a king or queen rules a country.

Sovereign – one possessing supreme political power.

Workhouse - places set up by the government where poor people with no money could go and be given a bed, food and work.

Queen Victoria and the Victorian Era

The Victorian Era is the period of time between 1837 to 1901 when Queen Victoria reigned over Britain.

Queen Victoria became queen at the age of 18 in 1837.

She married Prince Albert in 1840 and had 9 children.

Albert died in 1861.

She died in 1901.

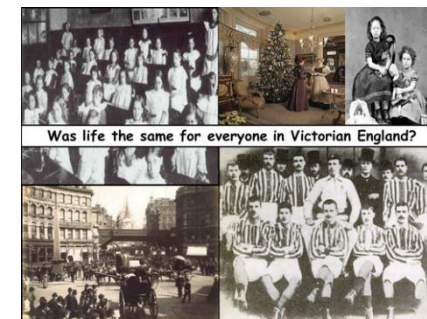


Children - the poor vs the rich

During Queen Victoria's 63 year reign, there was a huge contrast between how the rich and poor Victorians lived.

Life was very hard for the poor. Children from as young as 4 were expected to work and thousands worked in the mines, factories and workshops. Luckier children were able to work as domestic servants in rich households. These jobs were dangerous and unregulated. The law changed in 1870 and it said all children aged 5 -13 had to go to school. Many poor people would have to live and work in Workhouses. In 1930, Workhouses were closed for good.

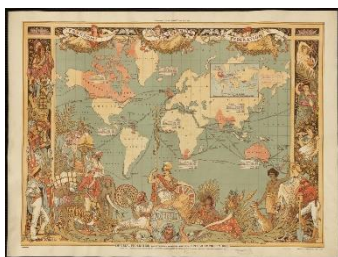
Rich children lived very differently. They were taken on holidays, fed well, had expensive clothes and even had pet ponies and horses. Rich Victorian children didn't have to work and they received private schooling.



The British Empire

Queen Victoria was the sovereign of the British Empire.

She led the expansion of the British Empire and saw major changes to all aspects of Britain due to exciting discoveries and inventions. In 1850, Great Britain was the richest country in the world.



The Industrial Revolution

This was 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. Huge factories were built and towns expanded. People would move to the towns for work at the factories. Houses for workers were built closer to the factories and better transport links were set up across the country.

Key Victorian inventions

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| 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 |

VICTORIAN FOOD CHALLENGE!

Last half term you found out about Tudor food. This time, can you find out what the Victorians used to eat and drink? How was it different for the rich and the poor?

Fancy making some Victorian food? Go to - <https://www.historyextra.com/period/victorian/7-victorian-recipes/>

Unlock even more:

Have fun watching Horrible Histories!

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbbc/shows/horrible-histories>

