



Topics

What was life in Victorian Britain like and closer to home, what was life in Victorian Leeds like?

Phase:
UKS2

Strands

Historical Interpretation and
Historical Concepts

What I should already know

We already know about life in different eras from the Stone Age onwards. We have learnt about the events of World War 1. We have learnt about shopping in Leeds in the past. We have studied Queen Victoria, Victorian toys and significant individuals from the Victorian era, such as Florence Nightingale.

Top 10 Vocabulary

British Empire	Lands that Britain controlled all over the world (for example, India).
factory acts	Laws passed by government to protect people working in dangerous factories.
government	People chosen by the country to pass laws and run the country.
industrialised	Where heavy mechanised or factory industries, have been widely developed.
Parliament	The House of Lords and the House of Commons who meet to advise the queen.
Ragged schools	A school set up to teach poor children.
reformer	A person who makes changes in order to improve things.
workhouse	A place where poor people would live and be given food, bed and work. Many had very harsh rules.
wakes week	Annual week's holiday given to factory workers in summer.
reign	The length of time a king or queen rules a country.



What will I know by the end of my studies on The Victorians?

We will learn about life in Victorian Britain and in half term 2 we will learn more specifically how Leeds changed during this era. In particular, we look at industry, factories and railways. We will investigate Victorian schools. We will also learn about significant individuals who helped to improve the lives of the poor.

Top 10 Facts

1. Victorian period is named after Queen Victoria who reigned over 64 years.
2. Britain and a world Empire from her coronation in 1837 to her death in 1901
3. Life in Victorian England was very different to today. It was a time of great wealth and poverty, as well as great invention and scientific discovery.
4. The first public toilets were used at the Great Exhibition. They cost one penny to use hence the term 'spend a penny!'
5. Classes in Victorian England sometimes had over 100 children. Dr Bernardo was a missionary who set up homes for poor, homeless children with food, shelter and training. He rescued around 60,000 children.
6. Lord Shaftesbury was a reformer and MP who worked hard to reform the laws surrounding children and work in factories.
7. The Victorian era saw Britain become the world's first industrial power, producing much of the world's coal, iron, steel, and textiles.
8. At the start of the Victorian era most people lived in the countryside. By the end of this era more than 3/4 of the population lived in large towns or cities.
9. During the Victorian era, Britain expanded its territory throughout the world and became the largest, richest and most powerful empire in world history! A quarter of the world's population lived in the empire.
10. New inventions, like the telephone, motorcar, typewriter, bicycle and moving film totally changed the way that people lived, worked and travelled.

Timeline - Victorian Era - 1837 to 1901

1837 Queen Victoria crowned (aged 18)	1840 Queen marries Prince Albert	1840 First ragged school set up	1844 Factory act: Children work 8 hours/ 2 hours school	1847 Factory act: women and children under 18 could only work 10 hours	1861 Prince Albert dies	1863 First underground railway opens in London	1867 All factory workers limited to 10 hours work daily	1870 Dr Bernardo opens first home for boys.	1871 First FA cup for football	1877 Queen declared 'Empress of India'	1880 Children 5-13 required to attend school (but had to pay).	1882 first electric power station in London	1891 education made free and compulsory for children 5-13	1897 Queen Victoria Diamond Jubilee (50 years on the throne).	1901 Queen Victoria dies.
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