

Year 6 Autumn 2 Week 1 – LO - to read information about Victorian holidays and make notes

Read the following slides about Victorian holidays and make notes based on what you read and what you can see in the pictures.



During the Victorian era, working class people worked for about 300 days in the year and could not afford holidays. They rested on Good Friday, Christmas Day and the 52 Sundays – when most parks and museums were closed. Only churches and pubs stayed open on Sundays. During the Victorian period, bank holidays were introduced which gave people more time to enjoy themselves although these were usually unpaid! The working classes could save to go a day trip on a horse drawn ‘charabanc’ but travel was slow and so they could not go very far.



The invention of the steam railway allowed urban workers to take day trips to the countryside and the seaside – ‘day trippers’. Many early visitors had never seen the sea before. Excursion trains operated from mill-towns such as Manchester, Preston and Leeds to resorts such as Fleetwood, Blackpool and Morecambe.

Factory workers in towns and cities were given an annual week's holiday in summer called 'Wakes Week'.

Seaside visits involved newly invented pursuits such as sea-bathing, donkey rides, sailing in pleasure steamers, listening to brass bands, walking in public pleasure gardens and along piers over the sea.





At first, there were separate beaches for males and females alighting from bathing machines but by the 1890s, mixed bathing was common and the bathing machines were no longer used.

