

Timeline of Key Events:

1837 - Queen Victoria crowned (aged 18 years).
1840 - Queen marries her cousin, Prince Albert.
1840 - first ragged schools set up.
1844 - factory act states children could start work from age 8 but had to have 2 hours schooling daily.
1847 - factory act states women and children under 18 could only work 10 hours or less daily.
1851 - Great Exhibition.
1861 - Prince Albert dies.
1863 - first underground railway opens in London.
1867 - all factory workers limited to 10 hours work daily.
1870 - Dr Barnardo opens first home for boys.
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.



What was it like to live in Victorian Britain?

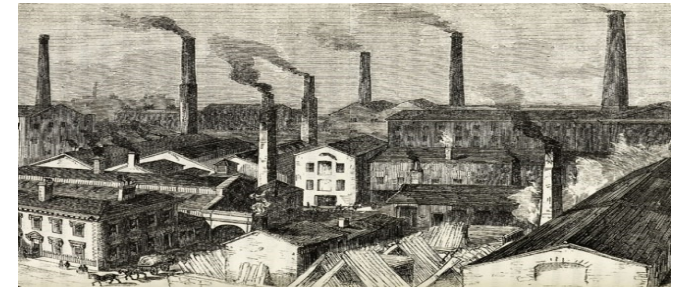
The Victorian period is named after Queen Victoria who reigned over Britain and a world Empire from her coronation in 1837 to her death in 1901 - 64 years. Life in Victorian England was very different to today. It was a time of great wealth and poverty, as well as invention and scientific discovery.

Key Figures

Queen Victoria ~ Longest reigning monarch 1837-1901
Prince Albert ~ Husband of Queen Victoria died in 1861 aged 42.
Florence Nightingale ~ Famous nurse, best known for her care for wounded soldiers during the Crimean war.
Lord Shaftsbury ~ Responsible for bringing about the reform of Britain's factories, improving working conditions and limiting the length of the workday.
Lewis Carroll ~ Writer and poet of children's literature
William Morris ~ Producer of decorative art including textiles, furniture and wall paper.
Charles Dickens ~ Writer of classical novels eg Oliver Twist and David Copperfield.
Mary Anning ~ Fossil collector and paleontologist.
Dr Barnardo ~ Founder of the charity Barnardos, providing homes and education for poor children.
Charles Darwin ~ English scientist, well known for his theory of evolution.

Useful websites

<http://www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/victorians/>
<http://primaryfacts.com/famous-victorians/>



Key Vocabulary

- British Empire ~ Countries ruled by Britain, later becomes the commonwealth
- Governess ~ A woman who taught rich girls and boys, as a paid, live-in servant.
- Industrial Revolution ~ The era of rapid and great change in industry and manufacturing with the growth of factories, beginning in the late 1700's.
- Ragged Schools ~ A school for poor children in the early 19th Century.
- Reformer ~ A person who seeks change for the better, to help others.
- Slates ~ Used for writing with a slate pencil.
- Workhouse ~ A place where people without means of support were sent to live, they got food and a bed in return for work.
- Monarchy ~ A form of government with a monarch at the head. A king or queen is the Head of State.
- Reign ~ The period of rule of a monarch.

Enquiry Questions

- When was the Victorian period?
- What was it like to be a Victorian child?
- Who was Lord Shaftesbury? Why was he important?
- What was the industrial revolution?
- What do you think happened in the Victorian era that had the most impact on life in Britain today?