

The Victorians Knowledge Organiser Year 5 Autumn Term

Who were the Victorians?

The time when [Queen Victoria](#) reigned is called the **Victorian era**. She was queen from **1837 to 1901**, and a lot of things happened in Britain during that time. During the 64 years that Queen Victoria was on the throne, Britain was also going through the **Industrial Revolution**. Machines for factories were invented that could make things quickly, like textiles – so, there were more textiles around to sell, and more people who wanted to buy them. With the invention of the steam train, the textiles could get to places further away than before. Life in the Victorian era changed very quickly for a lot of people, and cities became busier and more crowded.

Victorian Inventions

- The pedal bike
- The postage stamp
- Morse code
- Rubber Tyres
- Ice Cream
- The camera and photographs
- Telegraph Cable (the first text message!)
- Post Boxes
- Jelly babies
- Easter Eggs
- The telephone
- The canals were built
- Sewing machines
- Flushing toilets
- Petrol
- Steel
- London Underground – The Tube
- Electric Street Lighting
- Cars
- radio

Timeline of events

1710	Stepney Greencoat was founded for poor children in the local area.
1837	Queen Victoria was crowned.
1840	The first postage stamp was used – the penny black
1840-50	The first railway tracks were put down.
1842	The Mines Act – Women and children younger than 10 were no longer allowed to work in mines.
1845	The rubber tyre was invented.
1845	The first road was covered in tarmacadam – before this all roads were cobble stones.
1847	The Factories Act limits the amount of time women and children could work.
1850	The first workhouses opened, giving poor people a place to live in exchange for their work
1852	The Victoria and Albert museum opened in London.
1853	The first post boxes were used – painted green, not red!
1853-54	An outbreak of cholera in London killed 11,000 people.
1853-56	The Crimean War took place, and Florence Nightingale went to Scutari to work in the hospitals and care for the troops.
1857	The National Portrait Gallery opened in London; it was the first portrait gallery in the world
1857	The Science Museum opened in London
1857	A cable was laid in the Atlantic Ocean, between Ireland and Newfoundland, so telegraphs could be sent between North America and

Vocabulary

monarch	A king, queen or emperor
reign	To rule as monarch
era	A long and distinct period of history.
Act	A new law of change in the law
tarmacadam	A mix of materials used to create a smoother, hard surface for roads.
workhouses	A public building where poor people could go and live and be fed in exchange for work.
invention	A new creation
industry	business and activity
revolution	A change from an old system to a new way of doing things.
outbreak	A sudden occurrence of something unwelcome
telegraph	A system for sending messages along a wire.
mines	Digging up the earth for materials such as coal.
chimney sweep	A person whose job it is to clean the soot out from chimneys
steam engine	An engine that uses steam to generate power.
canal	A waterway which has been dug out and made by man.

Victorian children

Life was not the same for all children during the Victorian times. The kind of life a child had in the Victorian times depended on its family.

Children from working class families

- had few luxuries
- ate poor food
- worked long hours
- lived in damp, filthy conditions
- Many children died of disease

Children from rich families

- usually well fed, clean and well clothed
- didn't need to work
- went on holidays
- had expensive toys
- had pets such as ponies

Today, every child in Britain has the right to a free education. Many poor Victorian children never went to school. Young children were forced to work as soon as they were old enough to earn money for their families. However in 1844, Parliament passed a law that meant children working in factories had to have six-half-days schooling every week. 'Ragged Schools' were set up to provide free basic education for orphans and very poor children.



	Great Britain; it took a few more years to get it working properly, though!
1863	The London Underground opened.
1870	The Penny Farthing Bicycle was invented.
1877	The first telephones were sold.
1878	Street Lights were installed in London.
1880	The Education Act stated all children aged 5 – 10 had to go to school.
1885	The first motor car was built by Karl Benz.
1901	Queen Victoria died and King Edward VII became king.



Queen Victoria and Prince Albert



Queen Victoria after the death of Albert

William Morris



Florence Nightingale

One Penny stamp



Key Figures

Queen Victoria	The second longest reigning monarch 1837-1901. She is Queen Elizabeth II's great, great grandmother.
Prince Albert	Husband of Queen Victoria.
Florence Nightingale	Famous nurse, best known for her care for the wounded 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.
Louis Pasteur	French biologist and chemist, who researched cause and prevention of diseases by finding <u>vaccines</u> .
William Morris	Producer of decorative art including textiles, furniture and wall paper.
Charles Dickens	Writer of classic novels e.g. Oliver Twist and The Christmas Carol
Mary Anning	Fossil collector and palaeontologist.
Dr Barnardo	Founder of the charity Barnardo's, providing homes and education for the poor.
Charles Darwin	English scientist, well known for his theory of evolution.

