



The **Victorian** period of history is named after **Queen Victoria** who reigned as monarch of our country, and a large empire, **from 1837** until her death in **1901**. Life in Victorian times was rather different to how it is today. It was a time of both great **wealth** and great **poverty**, as well as **invention** and **scientific discovery**.

Jobs For Children

Chimney sweep - A person, often a small child, who would clean chimneys using a long brush.

Factory workers - Children worked long hours and had to carry out dangerous jobs working in factories. Children were made to clean machines while the machines were running, and there were many accidents.

Pure finder - A person who collected dog faeces from the streets of London to sell to tanners, who used it in the leather-making process.

Street sellers - old firewood, matches, buttons, bootlaces and flowers. They also polished shoes, ran errands and swept the streets.

Mining Jobs for children

Trapper - often the youngest member of a family working underground. Their job was to open and close the wooden doors (trap doors) that allowed fresh air to flow through the mine.

Key Vocabulary

British Empire—Territories all over the world that were controlled by Britain.

Class – A group of people sharing a similar social rank.

Exploitation – The practice of taking advantage of another person or group of people for one's own benefit.

Industrial Revolution – The changes that took place in Britain and other countries during the 18th and 19th centuries because of industrialisation.

Slums – The squalid part of a city, full of overcrowded houses in poor conditions.

Workhouse—A place where people who were too poor to support themselves received food and lodging in return for doing work. Conditions were harsh.

The Victorians

Year 6 Knowledge Organiser History



Great Inventions timeline

1840– Stamps

1843– Christmas Cards

1846– Sewing Machine

1849– Concrete

1851– Ice Cream

1852– Flushing Toilet

1854– Steel Production

1872– Penny Farthing Bicycle

1873– Typewriter

1876–Telephone

1977– Phonograph (Record
Player)

1878– Electric Street Lighting

1885– First Motorcar

1888– Kodak Camera

1894– Moving Pictures (Films)

Government Reforms

1842 – Mines Act stopped women and children under 10 working in mines

1844 – Factory Act stopped children between 8-12 from working more than 6½ hours a day

1847 – Factory Act limited women and children under 18 to a 58-hour working week

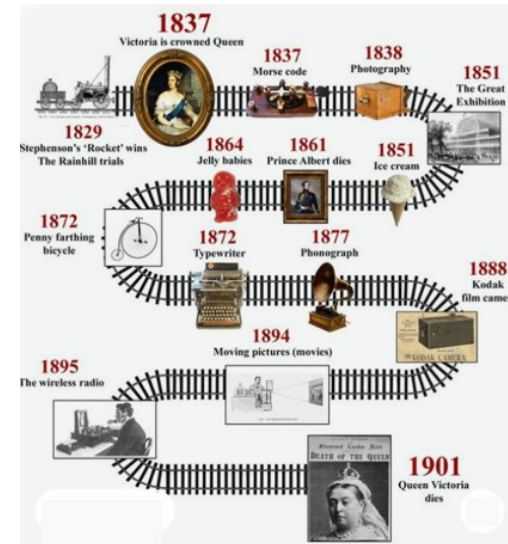
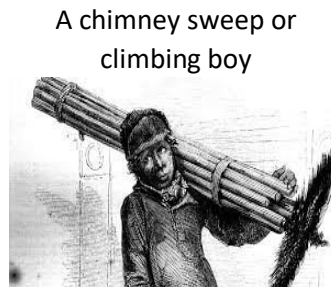
1864 – Boys under 10 were banned from being chimney sweeps

1874 – Ten Hour Factory Act meant that people could not be made to work for more than 10 hours a day and children under 14 could not be employed fulltime

1878 – Factory and Workshop Act banned the employment of children under 10.

1880 – Education Act made it compulsory for children up to 12 to go to school, but most children had to pay.

1891 – Education is free and compulsory for all 5-13 year olds.



A flushing Victorian toilet



By 1901 (the year in which Queen Victoria died) Britain ruled over **about 1/4 of the world**. At this point, the British Empire was made up of around **400 million** people (the population of England was only around 40 million). The empire included the **entire Indian subcontinent, Canada, Australia, New Zealand** and **large parts of Africa**. 'Dominion' (self-governing) status was awarded to 'white' countries (e.g. Australia), however, in some countries (e.g. in Africa) rule was more authoritarian.

The British Empire



Poor Life

Small houses– 1/2 rooms

Sometimes shared with families

Slums– dirty houses packed together

Very little food

Worn, dirty clothes

Open sewer

Water pumped from a well

Shared toilet

Invent own games

Play with what you find

Involved with housework

Closer with parents

Rich Life

Large houses

Servants/Maids/Nanny/Tutor

Expensive Clothes

One hour a day with parents

Flushing Toilets

Running Water

Nice food– sandwiches, meats, jams, sweets etc.

Expensive toys– Rocking horse, Doll's house, Cuddly Toys.

Seaside holidays

Strict routines

School

Start: 9 am

End: 5pm

Lunch– 12-2pm

Lessons: Drill Exercise, Reading, Writing, Arithmetic, Bible Study, Sewing (Girls), Woodwork/ Gardening (Boys).

School rules

Pupils must wait permission to speak

Pupils must use right hand

Pupils must stand when adults enter

Pupils must not ask questions

Pupils must not raise their hands without permission

Prominent (important) Victorians

Queen Victoria (1819-1901)



Victoria was the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland from 20th June 1837 until 22nd January 1901. On 1st May 1876 she was granted the additional title of 'Empress of India.' Her reign of 63 years and 7 months was the longest of any British monarch aside from Queen Elizabeth II, and was known as the Victorian era. Although much of the ruling power at the time was already handed to the government, Victoria still held significant sway in the rule of the country and empire. She became a national icon aligned with the strict standards of personal morality that are associated with the time. She married her cousin, Prince Albert of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha in 1840 – their nine children married into noble families across Europe, earning her the nickname 'the grandmother of Europe.' When Albert died in 1861, Victoria sank into deep mourning. She died in 1901 at the age of 81.

Charles Dickens (1812-1870)



Charles Dickens was a writer, who is widely regarded as the greatest novelist of the Victorian era. His works, including *Oliver Twist*, *Great Expectations* and *A Christmas Carol* were extremely popular during his lifetime, and have gained even further recognition since. His novels often dealt with the harsh social conditions experienced by the poor at the time, critiquing the attitudes of those with power and wealth.

Charles Darwin (1809-1882)



Charles Darwin was a naturalist and biologist who is best known for his theory of evolution. Darwin established that all species share common ancestors, and that natural selection has shaped the diversity of life on earth. Whilst his theories were initially rejected by many in scientific, religious, and public circles, they are now broadly considered as scientific fact. Darwin has been described as one of the most influential figures in history.

Elizabeth Garrett Anderson (1836-1917)



Elizabeth Garrett Anderson was a pioneering physician and political campaigner. Despite numerous legal and social obstacles, she became the first woman to qualify in Britain as a physician and surgeon, the first woman to be elected to a school board, and the first female mayor and magistrate. She was also the first co-founder of a hospital staffed by women.

Alexander Graham Bell (1847-1922)



Alexander Graham Bell was a Scottish-born scientist and inventor who is credited with inventing the first practical telephone. Both his mother and his wife were deaf, which influenced Bell to explore hearing devices – leading to the first US patent of the telephone. He was also a President of the National Geographic Society, influencing the magazine profoundly.



A Victorian School

Punishments

The Cane (hands or bottom), Dunces' hat, Lines.

Equipment

Slate, Slate Pencils, Abacus, Globe, Ink (Older children), Blackboard.

Extra Information

Wooden desks– fixed to floor

High windows

Up to 100 children per class

Strict teachers (usually female)

The Cane



A Dunces