

Victorians Knowledge Planner: Was the Victorian period the dark ages or the golden era?

The Victorian Era?

The period of time between 1837 to 1901 when Queen Victoria reigned over Britain. During her 63 year reign, there was a huge contrast between how the rich and poor Victorians lived. Queen Victoria led the expansion of the British empire and saw major changes to all aspects of Britain due to exciting discoveries and inventions.

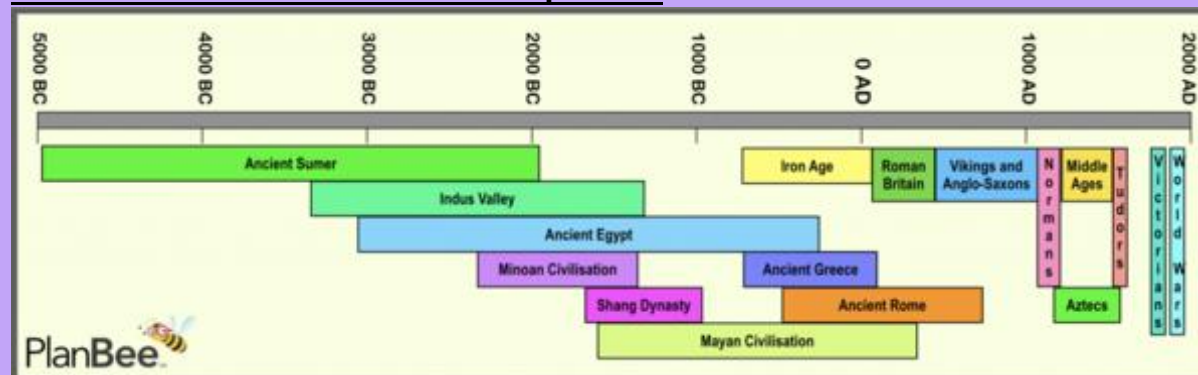
Historical Concepts

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| Change | The process or actions by which something or someone becomes different. |
| Continuity | Aspects that may stay the same despite changes. |
| Causation | The connections between events where one thing happens as a result of another |
| Significance | Identifying those events, sources, people, places or ideas which are most important. |
| Similarity and Difference | Comparing ways of life at different times. |
| Perspective | When interpreting evidence recognise that judgements are influenced by the view and opinion of the observer. |
| Sources | Evidence that is used to gather information and reach judgements. |
| Chronology | Arrange historical events in their correct time order. |
| Empathy | Placing yourself in another's position to better understand their actions. |

Key Vocabulary

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| Arithmetic | Learning about maths and numbers |
| Artefacts | An object from the past that shows evidence of what life was like |
| Era | A period of time in history. An era often begins or ends with an important event. |
| Industry | A group of companies that all produce the same thing. |
| Industrial Revolution | A time of major change in the way product were made. |
| Invention | A new thing that someone has made. |
| Livestock | Farm animals |
| Migrate | Move to a different area to work or better living conditions. |
| Monarch | A sovereign head of state, especially a king, queen or emperor. |
| Reign | To control a country. |
| Revolution | A big change in something. |
| Rural | The countryside. |
| Typhoid | A bacterial infection that can spread throughout the body. |













Timeline: When was the Victorian period?



Timeline

- 1834: The Poor Law was introduced
1837: Queen Victoria begins her reign
1838: Queen Victoria is crowned aged 18
1838: Slavery is abolished in the British Empire.
1840: Queen Victoria married Prince Albert.
1841: Isambard Kingdom Brunel completes the London to Bristol Railway.
1844: The factory act means that children between 8 and 13 no longer have to work over 6 ½ hours a day.
1850: The first post boxes were built
1871: Prince Albert dies from typhoid, aged 42.
1867: Dr Barnardo opens his first home for homeless children.
1870: Education act makes school available for all children aged 5-10.
1872: The first FA cup Final takes place.
1891: Schools become compulsory and are free for all children aged 5-10
1901: Queen Victoria dies.

Key Inventions

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|---|---|---|---|
| 1800s- Railway Network  | 1838- Photography  | 1840- Penny Black Stamp  | 1843- Christmas Cards  |
| 1852- British Pillar Post Box  | 1852- Public Flushing Toilet  | 1863- London Underground Railway  | 1872- The Penny-Farthing Bicycle  |
| 1876- Telephone  | 1879- Electric Bulb  | 1885- Petrol Motor Car  | 1895- X-rays  |

Important Artefacts



The Industrial Revolution

- A period of huge change in Britain between 1750 and 1900.
- Before the Industrial Revolution, Britain was a rural country, most people lived off the land with livestock.
- People began to realise coal and steam could be used to power factories, large machines, flour and cotton mills. This reduced the time it took to make something and increased the amount that could be made and so the Industrial Revolution began.
- Huge factories were built and towns expanded.
- People would migrate to the towns attracted by reliable work and pay from the factories.
- Houses for workers were built closer to the factories.
- Better transport links helped boost trade by transporting people and goods quickly and cheaply all across the country.

Important Places

Railway Network



In 1937, when Queen Victoria came to the throne there were 500 miles of railway. By 1850 there was between 6000 and 7000 miles of railway.

Workhouses



These were huge buildings built for very poor people to live and work. Food was very basic and conditions were very harsh.