

What was life like during the Victorian era?

Spindle Point Primary School — History Knowledge Organiser: Year 5 Spring Term

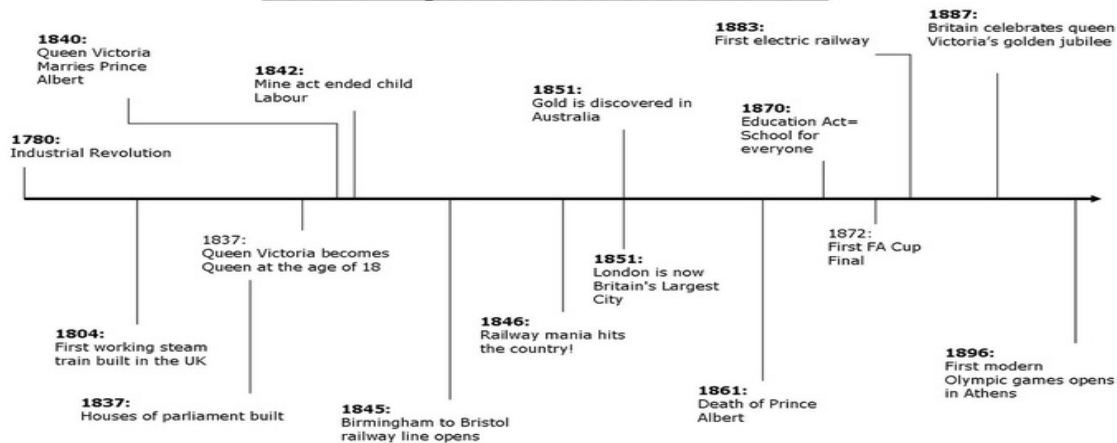
The Victorian era is the name given to the period of Queen Victoria's reign. It was a time of significant technological, scientific, economic and social change. New inventions and discoveries were made that changed where people lived, how they worked and how they spent their leisure time. The British Empire grew, and Britain came to rule over a quarter of the world's population. These changes brought immense wealth for many, but lots of people, including many children, still lived in terrible poverty. Many children worked in mines and factories. However, the Victorian era also saw lots more children attending school and significant progress in medicine and health care. People in the Victorian era wanted to learn more about the world around them. New learning in science was of particular interest and often challenged religious beliefs and ideas. Art galleries, libraries and museums were built in every large city. Some of Britain's most famous authors, such as Charles Dickens and the Brontë sisters, were writing during this time.

Key Vocabulary

- Shift: a change or movement
- Commonwealth of Nations: the new term given to the British Empire



Timeline of significant events within the 1800s



Significant People and Places

- Queen Victoria: second longest reigning monarch of Britain
- Alexander Graham Bell: invented the first working telephone
- Mary Kingsley—travelled over much of West Africa documenting her experiences