

Phase: 3/4

Subject: History

Focus: Children in Victorian Britain

Term: Spring

What I should already know?

That people in Britain in the past lived different lives to ours today.
 I know when some events and people fit on a Historical timeline.
 I can use some common words and phrases relating to the passing of time and some historical terms.

Vocabulary

Queen Victoria	The Queen of the United Kingdom from 1837-1901. She became queen when she was 18 years old and is Britain's second longest reigning Monarch (64 years on the throne).
British Empire	The large collection of lands and countries controlled by the United Kingdom
reign	The time when a king or queen rules e.g. <i>The reign of Queen Victoria.</i>
orphan	A child who's parents have died.
workhouse	A place that gave people/children who had no money somewhere to live and work. They were often horrible places.
gruel	A thin porridge or soup made from rice or flour.
working condition	The state that your place of work is like: safety, temperature, pay and treatment.
Industrial Revolution	From 1700s-1800s when Britain turned from a farming country into a country of cities and factories.
Dr Barnardo	An Irish doctor who lived in London and helped the hundreds of orphans who lived on the streets.
Lord Shaftesbury	A rich British man who tried to change laws to make life better for children in Victorian times.
child labour	When children have to work, often for very little money, instead of going to school
acts	Laws that are passed by the government

Knowledge

Queen Victoria came to the throne in 1837 when she was just 18 years old. She died in 1901, having reigned for 64 years. She is the second longest reigning monarch in Britain, after Queen Elizabeth II. She was married to Prince Albert of Germany.

The Victorian era saw a great many changes in Britain. Britain became an extremely powerful country and created an enormous empire around the world. It was also a time of technological change and many new advances came about, such as the railway, photography, and many new machines which changed the way we live.

Children from poor families in Victorian times had to work from a very young age. They did not go to school but worked in jobs that were often dangerous and difficult.

In the workhouse, you were given free meals, accommodation and medical care, but the authorities didn't want to encourage laziness so they made sure that life in the workhouse was the last thing people would want.

In Victorian times, there were no laws to protect children at work like there are today. Children were often forced to do dangerous jobs for little money because there was no other option for them.

Ragged Schools were charitable organisations that gave education to children who were too poor to be sent to school, often as well as food, housing and care.

The focus in Victorian schools was on the 3 Rs: Reading, Writing and Arithmetic. Children did lots of grammar exercises and had to learn long sections of stories and poems by heart. In arithmetic, children learnt to recite facts like their times tables.

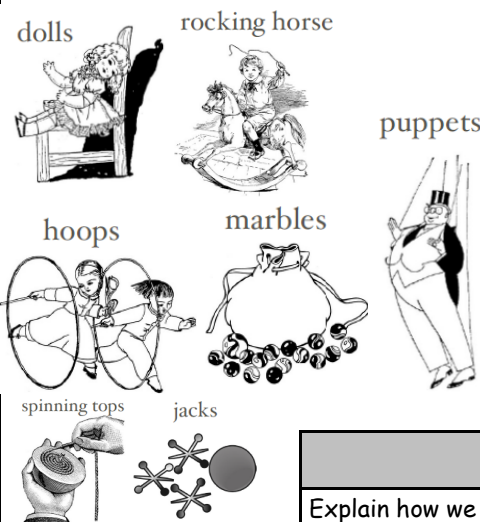
As the 19th century progressed, more and more laws were being put into place to protect children. There were limits to the number of hours they were allowed to work and laws on how much education they should receive. For the first time, all children - not just rich children - had at least some leisure time. The life of a child was different to the life of an adult, whichever part of society you were born into.

By the end of the unit I should know...

What life was like for Victorian children and how it compares to the present day.

Historical skills & enquiry

Explain how we know about the Victorians.
 Compare the different periods of time you have studied so far.
 Explain similarities and differences.



Timeline

1837	1840	1847	1861	1870	1878	1880	1891
Queen Victoria is crowned	Ragged Schools were set up to give the poorest children an education	Lord Shaftesbury has the 'Ten Hour Act' passed to help child labour.	Queen Victoria's husband, Prince Albert, dies.	Dr Barnardo builds his first home for orphan boys	The Factories and Workshops act was passed which made labour laws better.	It became law for all children to go to school.	School is free for all children