



Key Dates

1819	Victoria is born
1833	Lord Shaftesbury campaigned for the tenth hour Act, this reduced the work hours for children.
1834	Workhouses opened.
1834	The exploitation of child labour, the Chimney Sweeps Act was passed in 1834 outlawing the apprenticing of any child below the age of ten.
20th June 1837	Victoria became Queen.
1840	Queen Victoria married Prince Albert.
1840 (approximately)	The industrial revolution ended.
1856	Isambard Kingdom Brunel designed and constructed a cast iron bridge.
1861	Prince Albert died.
1870	The 'Forster Act' introduced compulsory universal education for children aged 5-13
22nd January 1901	Queen Victoria died.

Key Events, Facts and People

The Victorian era was the period of Queen Victoria's reign, from 20 June 1837 until her death on 22 January 1901.

During this time, electric light bulbs, public flushing toilets and the phonograph changed the way that people lived, worked and travelled. In 1856, an engineer named Henry Bessemer invented a new method for turning iron into steel, making it possible to build ships, bridges and other structures on a much bigger scale.



Local newspapers are a valuable source of information on the local area. They reflect the period in which they were written and provide details about local people and significant events.

Victoria became queen when she was 18 years old in June 1837. Although some people thought she was too young to be a powerful ruler, Victoria was a strong character and brought energy and determination to the British monarchy. Victoria took her duties as queen very seriously. Her reign is regarded as a time of growth and prosperity, as it was a time when Great Britain became the largest empire in the world



Key Vocabulary

workhouse	A place in which people could live in return for work.
prosperity	Being successful and thriving, particularly economically.
era	A long and distinct period of history.
Industrial Revolution	The Industrial Revolution was the transition from creating goods by hand to using machines.
law	A rule, often made by a government, that is used to order the way in which a society behaves. Broken laws often have sanctions.
census	the procedure of systematically acquiring and recording population information
monarchy	A form of government with a monarch at the head.
reign	The period of rule of a monarch.
empire	A group of states or countries ruled over by a single monarch.
engineer	A person who designs, builds, or maintains engines, machines, or structures.
economy	The way people spend money and the way people make money.

What was it like in Victorian Britain and what does the census tell us about our local area?

Key Questions

- Why was Queen Victoria such a significant British Monarch?
- Why was the Victorian period referred to as a time of prosperity?
- What significant inventions were there during the Victoria era?
- What was the industrial revolution?
- What were Victorian workhouses and what happened to them?
- What changes did Lord Shaftesbury make?
- What was life as a child like in the Victorian era?
- What does the local census tell us about our area?
- Who lived in our local area?

Lord Shaftesbury



Lord Shaftesbury campaigned for children to have a right to education. He thought that the best way to get children out of poverty was through education.

Isambard Brunel



Isambard Brunel was a highly skilled engineer. He built dockyards, the Great Western Railway (GWR), a series of steamships including the first propeller-driven transatlantic steamship, and numerous important bridges and tunnels.

Unit outcomes

- ✓ To use primary sources and make inferences about people from the past, providing supporting evidence for their statements.
- ✓ To explain how new inventions changed people's lives.
- ✓ Make observations from the census and identify changes between periods of time.
- ✓ Create questions to identify the thoughts and feelings of a Victorian working child.
- ✓ To compare Victorian schools to modern schools.
- ✓ Extract information from the census to recreate the lives of people who lived in a household from the local area.
- ✓ To explore significant Victorian figures.
- ✓ To explore how the industrial revolution changed Britain.
- ✓ Describe change throughout time.

Cross curricular – Year 5

English - writing a biography based on Brunel.

English - character description based on the main character in the 'Street Child' book.

English - playscript inspired by the 'Street Child'

English - writing a newspaper report based on the Victorians.

D&T - design a bridge sculpture that will hold weight.

Art - printing inspired by William Morris.

Reading - Street Child by Berlie Doherty Isambard Kingdom Brunel non-fiction texts.

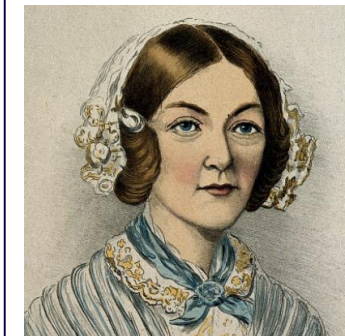
The Victorians gave us

After **Lord Shaftesbury's** campaigns, children aged 5 - 13 were able to access free education. This helped children to escape poverty and focus on learning.

During the Victorian era, there were many **inventions** that are still important today, for example: the telephone, moving film, the bicycle and the car. These changed the way people lived and travelled. A great Victorian invention that developed transport, were the railways. The progress from iron to steel made construction for railways much improved.



Charities such as the **Salvation Army** and **Barnardo's**, were established during the Victorian era. They fed the hungry in soup kitchens and looked after the poorest children in orphanages.



Healthcare saw huge improvements under the Victorians. Medical pioneers like Florence Nightingale worked with the government to improve hospital cleanliness.