

The Victorians



Photo: Queen Victoria

Vocabulary	
Empire	a number of nations controlled by one country
Poverty	being extremely poor
revolution	important change
conditions	how good or bad something is
uncharted	not yet mapped, unfamiliar
missionaries	people sent to a foreign country to teach about their religion
achievements:	things done successfully after lots of effort
British Raj	British rule in India

Sticky Knowledge

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.

British 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.

The Industrial Revolution saw new inventions, like the steam engine, completely change the way people lived, and how they worked. Agriculture was no longer the primary source of work, and people flocked to growing urban areas and cities to find jobs.

The Victorian era was a period of exploration and discovery. Some explorers went in search of lost cities, to map uncharted territories and as missionaries, hoping to spread their faith and establish churches, schools and hospitals.

Much of the world was still 'undiscovered' and a source of great mystery. One famous explorer, Mary Kingsley, travelled over much of West Africa, writing about her experiences and collecting scientific evidence of new animal species that she had discovered.

During Victoria's reign, Britain went from being a significant global power to the most powerful nation on Earth. Victoria ruled over an enormous empire that controlled almost one-quarter of the world's population, with trading centres and colonies across the globe.

Books

Vile Victorian- Horrible Histories

Street Child Berlie Doherty

