



History Topic:

**The Victorians - What does the census tell us about our local area?**

Year 6  
*Civilisation, Communication and Inventions*

Spring Term



## Let's recap...

- Year 2 – Children shall recognise the term monarch.
- Year 2 – Children compare children's lives in the Victorian era to today.
- Year 2 – Children looked at artefacts in a Victorian school.
- Year 2 – Children will have looked at jobs and toys that Victorian children had.
- Year 4 – The children will be familiar with Florence Nightingale.
- Year 4 – The children will have studied how lives changed – Lord Shaftsbury.

## Trip/ Visit – Blists Hill

Victorian Day, we are  
the child labourers



## What Step On and Goldilocks words will I use?

Spelling	Definition
Blacksmith	A person who makes and repairs things in iron by hand.
Census	An official survey of the population that is carried out every ten years.
Chain maker	A low-paid person who made chains out of metal.
Coal hewer	A low-paid person who was a coal-face worker who dug for coal, loosening the coal with a pick.
Condition	A term used to refer to whether someone was married or not.
Enumerator	A person employed to collect census forms and enter them into the enumeration book.
Farrier	A smith who shoes horses.
Flax	Fibres are taken from beneath the stem of the plant and turned into flax yarn.
Foundry	A workshop or factory for casting metal.
Head of household	The person who makes the money to support the household and makes important decisions.
Iron founder	One who founds or makes castings in iron.
Schedule	The census form was taken around to households until 1901. The form was filled in and collected by the enumerator.
Scholar	A term used on the census to indicate someone attending school or a child.
Shilling	Part of the former British currency, a shilling was worth twelve pence.
Suffragette	A woman who campaigned for the right to vote.
Textile Mill	A mill that turns fibre into yarn and then yarn into fabric.
Yarn	Interlocking fibres created by spinning, which are used in textiles, knitting and sewing.

### Queen Victoria (1819-1901)

Victoria was the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland from 20<sup>th</sup> June 1837 until 22<sup>nd</sup> January 1901. On 1<sup>st</sup> May 1876 she was granted the additional title of 'Empress of India.' Her reign of 63 years and 7 months was the longest of any British monarch aside from Queen Elizabeth II, and was known as the Victorian era. Although much of the ruling power at the time was already handed to the government, Victoria still held significant sway in the rule of the country and empire. She became a national icon aligned with the strict standards of personal morality that are associated with the time. She married her cousin, Prince Albert of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha in 1840 – their nine children married into noble families all across Europe, earning her the nickname 'the grandmother of Europe.' When Albert died in 1861, Victoria sank into deep mourning. She died in 1901 at the age of 81.

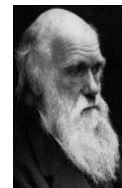
### Charles Dickens (1812-1870)



Charles Dickens was a writer, who is widely regarded as the greatest novelist of the Victorian era. His works, including *Oliver Twist*, *Great Expectations* and *A Christmas Carol* were extremely popular during his lifetime, and have gained even further recognition since. His novels often dealt with the harsh social conditions experienced by the poor at the time, critiquing the attitudes of those with power and wealth.

### Charles Darwin (1809-1882)

Charles Darwin was a naturalist and biologist who is best known for his theory of evolution. Darwin established that all species share common ancestors, and that natural selection has shaped the diversity of life on earth. Whilst his theories were initially rejected by many in scientific, religious, and public circles, they are now broadly considered as scientific fact. Darwin has been described as one of the most influential figures in history.



## Victorian Timeline

1837 – Victoria becomes Queen aged 18.

1840 – Britain claims New Zealand as a colony to head off the French.

1843 – Charles Dickens publishes 'A Christmas Carol.'

1845-1849 – Ireland suffers the Great Potato Famine, causing the deaths of about 800,000 people.

1850 – Workhouses were opened, offering basic food and beds in return for work.

1856 – Britain defeats Russia in the Crimean War.

1861 – Prince Albert dies of typhoid.

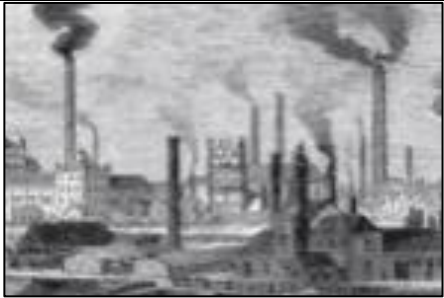


1880 – School compulsory for 5-10 year olds

1901 – Queen Victoria dies. Her son, Edward VII, becomes King.

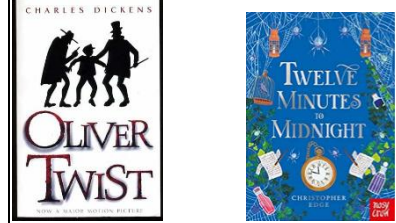
# Our Storytelling Approach to enhance engagement

<b>People:</b> A young orphan child		<b>Place:</b> Workhouse - London		<b>Problem:</b> Needs to flee the workhouse	
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## Key Historical Facts

The Industrial Revolution	Around 1760-1850 <b>In the Industrial Revolution, the manufacturing of goods moved from small shops to large factories.</b> This meant that more people moved into the cities. It was a time of new technologies and a new, more modern way of life. Many people worked long hours in factories, often in poor conditions. Even children were expected to work in mills, coal mines or as chimney sweeps. Cities grew quickly and became overcrowded, which led to problems like pollution and disease. Despite the challenges, the Industrial Revolution also led to important changes such as railways, better transport and new inventions that would shape the future.  Key Fact: Queen Victoria took to the throne at the very end of the revolution.	
Census records	The census is a survey collecting information from every household in the country. It can be used to focus on specific people and places or to identify changes in a particular household over a period of time. It contains information such as the names of people living in a household, their ages, occupations, places of birth, their relationship to the head of household and the number of rooms in a dwelling.	
Births, Marriages and Deaths	Birth, marriage and death records not only identify and confirm births, marriages and deaths but also give extra information such as who witnessed marriages and people's occupations.	

## Focus Texts



We will focus on 'Street Child' by Berlie Doherty as well as reading extracts from 'Oliver Twist' a classic by Charles Dickens (the Victorian novelist)

**Agreed Outcome**

A Victorian Narrative inspired by Doherty, Edge and Dickens depicting the life of poor children.

To discover more:

History for Kids - [Victorian Inventions Facts and History - History for Kids](#)

National Geographic Kids - [The Victorian Era Primary Resource - National Geographic Kids](#)



# Lyng Primary School Knowledge Quiz



History Topic:

The Victorians

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1. The Upper Class is made up of	<b>S</b>	<b>E</b>
Poor People		
Rich People		
The Royal family		

2. What is a census	<b>S</b>	<b>E</b>
A population survey		
A period of 100 years		
Today's equivalent of £100		

3. How many pence were in a shilling?	<b>S</b>	<b>E</b>
10		
11		
12		

4. A coal hewer was a well-paid, prestigious job.	<b>S</b>	<b>E</b>
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**Our Victorian Quick Quiz**

6. Most Victorian children	<b>S</b>	<b>E</b>
Worked		
Went to school		
Enjoyed their childhood		

7. Why did lots of people die in the workhouses?	<b>S</b>	<b>E</b>
They were beaten to death		
Disease spread quickly		
It was too cold		

8. What was the danger of working in a textile mill?		
<b>S</b>		
<b>E</b>		

9. List three occupations for local people of the Black Country.		
<b>S</b>	<b>E</b>	

True		
False		

5. Where did most orphans grow up?	
<b>S</b>	
<b>E</b>	