



Victorians

The Victorian era saw a huge amount of changes within the British empire. During this topic we will be exploring the British empire, which countries were part of it and what impact this had on Britain. We will also be looking at the Industrial Revolution, what they began, what initiated the change and what impact it had on Britain.

The British Empire is a term used to describe all the places around the world that were once ruled by Britain. Built over many years, it grew to include large areas of North America, Australia, New Zealand, Asia and Africa, as well as small parts of Central and South America, too. The size of the British Empire - the amount of land and number of people under British rule - changed in size over the years. At its height in 1922, it was the largest empire the world had ever seen, covering around a quarter of Earth's land surface and ruling over 458 million people.

Key Dates

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| 1838 Queen Victoria is crowned at age 18. |
| 1838 Slavery is abolished in the British empire. |
| 1837 The new Houses of Parliament are built. |
| 1840 Queen Victoria marries Prince Albert. |
| 1840s Britain's railway network grows until most town and villages have a rail connection. |
| 1844 The Factory Act means that children between 8 and 13 no longer have to work over 6½ hours a day. |
| 1851 The Great Exhibition runs from May to October in London. |
| 1861 Prince Albert dies from typhoid. |
| 1871 Queen Victoria opens the Royal Albert Hall. |
| 1876 Alexander Bell invents the telephone. |
| 1901 Queen Victoria dies and Edward VII becomes king. |

Important Vocabulary

| Spelling | Definition |
|------------------------------|--|
| Colony | is a group of people from one country who build a settlement in another territory, or land. They claim the new land for the original country, and the original country keeps some control over the colony. |
| Empress | a woman who rules an empire. |
| Empire | a group of territories or peoples under one ruler |
| Industrial Revolution | a time when the manufacturing of goods moved from small shops and homes to large factories. |
| Reign | rule by a king or queen. |
| Successor | a person or thing that succeeds another. |
| Tourism | people traveling for fun. |
| Trade | is the buying and selling of goods and services. |
| Import | From other countries... |
| Export | To other countries... |

Key Inventions

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| 1800s- Railway Network | 1838- Photography | 1840- Penny Black Stamp | 1843- Christmas Cards |
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| 1852- British Pillar Post Box | 1852- Public Flushing Toilet | 1863- London Underground Railway | 1872- The Penny-Farthing Bicycle |
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| 1876- Telephone | 1879- Electric Bulb | 1885- Petrol Motor Car | 1895- X-rays |
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The Industrial Revolution

- A period of huge change in Britain between 1750 and 1900.
- Before the **Industrial Revolution**, Britain was a **rural** country, most people lived off the land with **livestock**.
- People began to realise that coal and steam could be used to power factories, large machines, flour and cotton mills. This reduced the time it took to make something and increased the amount that could be made and so the **Industrial Revolution** began.
- Huge factories were built and towns expanded.
- People would **migrate** to the towns attracted by reliable work and pay from the factories.
- Houses for workers were built closer to the factories.
- Better transport links helped boost trade by transporting people and goods quickly and cheaply all across the country.

