

THE VICTORIANS

Timeline of Key Events:

1837 – Queen Victoria crowned (aged 18 years).

1840 – Queen marries her cousin, Prince Albert.

1840 – First ragged schools set up.

1844 – Factory act states children could start work from age 8 but had to have 2 hours schooling daily.

1847 – Factory act states women and children under 18 could only work 10 hours or less daily.

1851 – Great Exhibition.

1861 – Prince Albert dies.

1863 – First underground railway opens in London.

1867 – All factory workers limited to 10 hours work daily.

1870 – Dr Barnardo opens first home for boys.

1877 – Queen declared 'Empress of India'.

1880 – Children 5-13 required to attend school (but had to pay).

1882 – First electric power station in London.

1891 – Education made free and compulsory for children 5-13.

The Victorian period is named after Queen Victoria who reigned over Britain and a world Empire from her coronation in 1837 to her death in 1901 – 64 years. Life in Victorian England was very different to today. It was a time of great wealth and poverty, as well as invention and scientific discovery.

Famous Victorians	What they did
Queen Victoria	1819-1901 Longest serving monarch and the first one to live at Buckingham Palace
Isambard Kingdom Brunel	Engineer who designed Clifton suspension bridge, Paddington station and steamships
Charles Dickens	A writer who wrote about the rich and poor
Charles Babbage	Inventor, inventing the first computer
Michael Faraday	Scientist
George Stephenson	Engineer who built 'The Rocket' – the first train.
Dr Thomas Barnardo	Founded homes for children who needed care and an education.
Elizabeth Garrett Anderson	The first British woman doctor.
Alexander Graham Bell	Inventor and engineer

Key Vocabulary

Industrialisation

Industrial revolution

Manufacturing

Empire

Coronation

Reign

Workhouse

Ragged school

Victorian Achievements

- It was an era of peace
- There was a large increase in population (doubled)
- There was a significant industrial step forward seeing the inventions and use of
- The railways & Steamships
- Telephone/telegram
- Increase in business and commerce
- Prison reform
- Abolished slavery
- Education for everyone



What was life like for the poor?

Life in the Victorian era depended on whether you were rich or poor. Wealthy Victorians enjoyed a good life but poor Victorians had a hard life, often ending up in the workhouse or with an early death. The poor often worked long hours, live in damp, filthy conditions and many children died of disease. Many children (before the education reform) had to work to support the family.