

Victorian Knowledge

Time period: 1837- 1901
Monarch: Queen Victoria



School

Start: 9 am
End: 5pm
Lunch- 12-2pm
Lessons: Drill Exercise, Reading, Writing, Arithmetic, Bible Study, Sewing (Girls), Woodwork/ Gardening (Boys).

School rules

Pupils must wait permission to speak
Pupils must use right hand
Pupils must stand when adults enter
Pupils must not ask questions
Pupils must not raise their hands without permission
Talking and fidgeting will be punished

Punishments

The Cane (hands or bottom), Dunce's hat, Lines.

Equipment

Slate, Slate Pencils, Abacus, Globe, Ink (Older children), Blackboard.

Extra Information

Wooden desks- fixed to floor
High windows
Up to 100 children per class
Strict teachers (usually female)

Children's jobs

Farm work
Trade apprentice- Butcher, Baker, Funeral Parlour etc.
Chimney Sweep
Factory worker- cleaning machinery
Trapper- Open and shut doors in mines to allow release of gases.
Drawer- Pull carts of coal by a chain around their waist out of the mines.

Street Children

Run Errands
Shoe shine
Sweep streets in front of the rich
Begging
Stealing
Selling: Flowers, Matchsticks, Boot laces, Buttons, Firewood.

Key Words

Urban- Town environment
Slum- Poor housing area
Orphan- Child with no parents
Workhouse- Home for the poor
Cane- Stick used for punishment
Abacus- Used for calculating sums
Factory- Building with machines
Governess/Tutor- Home teacher
Nanny- Raises rich children

Government Reforms

1842 - Mines Act stopped women and children under 10 working in mines
1844 - Factory Act stopped children between 8-12 from working more than 6½ hours a day
1847 - Factory Act limited women and children under 18 to a 58-hour working week
1864 - Boys under 10 were banned from being chimney sweeps
1874 - Ten Hour Factory Act meant that people could not be made to work for more than 10 hours a day and children under 14 could not be employed fulltime
1878 - Factory and Workshop Act banned the employment of children under 10
1880 - Education Act made it compulsory for children up to 12 to go to school, but most children had to pay
1891 - Education is free and compulsory for all 5-13 year olds



Inventions

1840- Stamps
1843- Christmas Cards
1846- Sewing Machine
1849- Concrete
1851- Ice Cream
1852- Flushing Toilet
1854- Steel Production
1872- Penny Farthing Bicycle
1873- Typewriter
1876- Telephone
1877- Phonograph (Record Player)
1878- Electric Street Lighting
1885- First Motorcar
1888- Kodak Camera
1894- Moving Pictures (Films)

Poor Home Life

Small houses- 1/2 rooms
Sometimes shared with families
Slums- dirty houses packed together
Very little food
Worn, dirty clothes
Open sewer
Water pumped from a well
Shared toilet
Invent own games
Play with what you find
Involved with housework
Closer with parents

Rich Home Life

Large houses
Servants/Maids/Nanny/Tutor
Expensive Clothes
One hour a day with parents
Flushing Toilets
Running Water
Nice food- sandwiches, meats, jams, sweets etc.
Expensive toys- Rocking horse, Doll's house, Cuddly Toys.
Sea side holidays
Strict routines
Scared of parents

