

History Focus

The Victorians

Year 5

When? (Key Knowledge)

1837	William IV died and his niece Victoria became Queen at the age of 18
1840	The first postage stamps came into use
1840	Queen Victoria married Prince Albert
1844	The Factory Act stops children between 8 and 13 working more than 6.5 hours a day.
1850	Workhouses opened to try to help the poorest people who had no money.
1851	The Great Exhibition opened at Crystal Palace by Prince Albert.
1853-1856	The Crimean war was fought
1863	The first underground railway opened in London
1876	Queen Victoria names Empress of India
1878	The first electric public lighting replaced old gas lamps
1880	The Education act makes school compulsory for 5-10 year olds
1901	Queen Victoria died, her son Edward VII becomes king

Background Information

The 19th century was one of rapid development and change, far swifter than in previous centuries. During this period England changed from a rural, agricultural country to an urban, industrialised one. This involved massive movement of people and radically altered the nature of society. It took many years for both government and people to adjust to the new conditions.

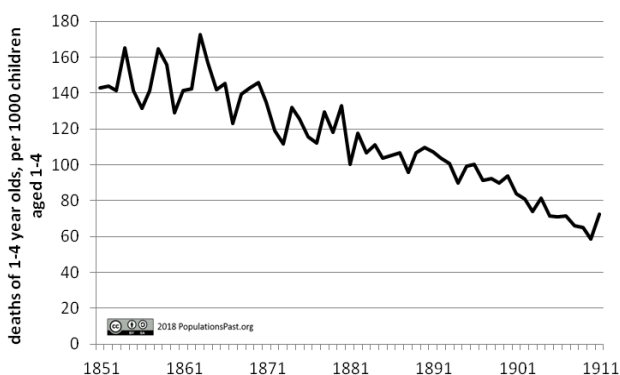
Strictly speaking, the Victorian era began in 1837 and ended with Queen Victoria's death in 1901, but the period can be stretched to include the years both before and after these dates, roughly from the Napoleonic Wars until the outbreak of World War I in 1914.

What? (Key vocab)

Spelling	Definition
Workhouse	Factory-like environment where adults and children worked for food and lodging
Reign	A period of time in which a monarch is in power
Industrial Revolution	A period of time where manufacturing of goods moved from small shops to large factories
Chimney Sweep	An adult or child who climbs into chimneys to remove blockages
Class	A position in society determined by your wealth or status
Engineering	The use of scientific knowledge to design and build machines, products or structures
Steam Engine	A device, powered by steam, that can be used to move machinery or pull coaches on a track

Diagrams and Symbols

Early Childhood Mortality Rate



Who?

William IV	King of England before Victoria
Queen Victoria	Queen who reigned during the 'Victorian' era
Charles Dickens	A celebrated author who chronicled life during the era via his stories
Florence Nightingale	Nurse who became famous during the Crimean War
Isambard Kingdom Brunel	Celebrated engineer and pioneer during the industrial revolution