

Industrial Revolution & Social Reformation

Why was the Industrial Revolution so important to the progress in the UK?

Golden Thread: Social Change, Exploration & Trade and Innovation & Legacy

Chronology: 1750 - 1900

Year 6 Autumn 1

1. What were the main factors that contributed to the creation of 'Industrial Britain'?

- The Industrial Revolution took place in Britain from 1750 to 1900.
- The Industrial Revolution was a time in British history where the country changed hugely from a mostly rural society to an industrial one.
- There were six main factors that came together to create the Industrial Revolution: Population Boom, Improved Agriculture, Factories, Power, Transport and Empire.
- Britain became known as the 'workshop of the world' by the mid-19th century.



Significance

3. How did the production and movement of goods change throughout the revolution?

- During the industrial revolution, people were desperate for a way to safely and cost-effectively transport their products around the country. As there were few roads, people found that using rivers helped towards a smoother and less enduring journey for those involved. It also resulted in far fewer losses and breakages of goods.
- However, there were many faults as rivers run their own course and rarely went directly to the places where people needed to go.
- The ingenious minds of engineers, builders and scientists went to work and began to carve waterways (canals) into the landscape to provide more direct and suitable routes for products to be transported through the country.
- James Brindley was an engineer who built and designed many of the canals in the UK.

Continuity & change

5. What negative affects did the industrial revolution have upon the people living in the UK?

- Although these changes fixed a lot of the issues that British people were dealing with, they also caused problems of their own.
- The four main things that resulted in consequences were:
 - **Mass production:** loss of craft and waste of people's craft
 - **Use of factories:** dangerous working conditions, long hours, little pay
 - **People moving to cities:** overcrowding, less family links, money needed to travel
 - **Advances in transport:** changes in the landscape, more affluent people able to transport goods



Cause & Consequence

Assessment task:

Why was the Industrial Revolution so important to the progress in the UK?

2. Where were the major industries that thrived during the revolution?

- The industrial revolution meant that people moved into the cities and factories were built to mass produce items that were used around the country and then the world.
- Industries started to thrive and places became known for the materials that they produced.



Significance

4. How did the innovation of transport develop throughout the revolution?

- Once people had figured out how to mass produce materials and products, a new problem came to light. As we now know, certain materials were thriving in different parts of the country but we needed to find a way to distribute these around the country so that everyone could benefit.
- The coal industry had a huge impact on the way these products were moved around and this is all to because of the steam engine.
- George Stephenson worked closely with the coal industry for all of his working life. He was able to see problems with the way the coal was distributed and wanted to solve this. His invention of the steam locomotive revolutionised transport for goods as well as people, throughout Britain.

Continuity & change

6. What changes were implemented because of the problems that arose in during the industrial revolution?

- Children were forced to work in hideous conditions from very young ages. Although this was happening all over the country, many people agreed that this was dangerous and extremely cruel.
- The government passed the **Factory Act in 1833**. This was a set of rules and regulations that all factories needed to abide by that meant that children were treated better.

Continuity & change