



Year 6
Spring Term

History

How has Britain evolved over time?

Background Information

How long has 'Bracknell' existed? What do we really know about our locality? In this topic, children will be researching how Bracknell came to be and comparing Bracknell in the 21st century to Bracknell in the 19th century. They will look in some depth at who Queen Victoria was and why the Victorian Era was important to the history of Britain.

In this unit the children will:

- Use a range of sources to find out about Queen Victoria and the Victorian era
- Use maps to make comparisons and comment on the changes between a locality over time
- Compare aspects of the Victorian times with the 21st century.

Historical Skills:

- Place current study on time line in relation to other studies
- Use relevant dates and terms
- Compare accounts of events from different sources. Fact or fiction
- Offer some reasons for different versions of events
- Link sources and work out how conclusions were arrived at
- Recognise primary and secondary sources
- Use a range of sources to find out about an aspect of time past.
- Suggest omissions and the means of finding out
- Know key dates, characters and events of time studied .



Key People:
Queen Victoria

Key Vocabulary:

Abacus: a wooden frame with beads on it which was used to help children with counting sums

Boarding School: a school where children live during term time

Cane: a stick used by teachers to beat children who misbehaved

Census: a record of living people at a certain time. Recording how many people there are, where people live, their age and what they do.

Coal Mine: a place where coal is dug from under the ground

Cotton: material from a plant which is spun into tread then woven to make cloth

Factory: a building with machines for producing goods in large numbers

Industrial Revolution: the era of rapid change in industry and manufacturing with the growth of factories

Orphan: a child with no living parents

Scullery: small room with a sink for washing up

Slates: pieces of flat stone used for writing

Sunday School: school which taught Christianity—founded in 1803

Workhouse: a place where people without means of support were sent to live and work.

What did the Victorians do for us?:

- Great authors
- New inventions

Timeline of Key Events:

1837 Victoria becomes Queen

1838 Slavery is abolished in the British Empire

First railway line into London opens from Birmingham

1840 Vaccination for the poor introduced

1842 Mines Act ends child labour

1845-49 Ireland suffers the Great Potato Famine

1850s Post boxes built

1854-56 Crimean War

1854 A cholera epidemic led to better sanitary conditions

1860 First public flushing toilet

1861 Prince Albert dies, aged 42

1862 First London trams open

1863 London Underground opens

Football Association's formed

1868 Joseph Lister discovers disinfectant

1868 The last public hanging

1869 First Sainsbury's shop opens

1870 Education Act means school for all

1871 Albert Hall opens

1872 Voting by secret ballot is introduced

1876 Victoria becomes empress of India

1876-80 Education becomes compulsory for children under 10

1877 First public electric lighting

1891 Free education for every child

1901 Population of Britain reaches 40 million

Victoria dies and Edward VII becomes King