

# VICTORIAN LIFE

ROYAL PUMP ROOM MUSEUM



## CONTENTS

- 1 Introduction to the Teachers' Pack
- 2 National Curriculum Links
- 4 Workshops on offer and booking details
- 6 Home Life
- 9 Public and Community Life
- 11 Childhood
- 13 Working Life including:
  - a poster about helping seasonal workers
  - a poster about The Temperance Movement
  - a Hotel bill
  - a drugstore bill
  - a bootmaker's bill
- 16 Rites of Passage (including funeral procession list)
- 19 Travel
- 22 Further research suggestions
- 24 **Art and Design and History activity sheet KS1/2:** Victorian Hats, Caps, Bonnets and Clothes, including The Railway Station by W P Frith.
- 26 **Art and Design, English and History activity sheet KS2/3:** Families and Homes, including 'Many Happy Returns of the Day' by W P Frith.
- 28 **English activity sheet KS2 and above:** It's All Happening at the Railway Station, including 4 character sheets.

# VICTORIAN LIFE

ROYAL PUMP ROOM MUSEUM



## INTRODUCTION

Pupils will be able to explore a number of different themes represented by objects from the museum collections. These include:

- Home Life**
- Public and Community Life**
- Childhood**
- Working Life**
- Rites of passage**
- Travel**

This teacher's guide also includes:

- Curriculum links
- Images of objects, some of which can be used as a tool in the classroom
- Details of workshops on offer
- Don't forget to use resources available online at [www.harrogate.gov.uk](http://www.harrogate.gov.uk)

### ON-LINE Resources

- A closer look at 9 objects
- Activity sheets:
  - Life at the Seaside (creative writing)
  - Homes and Children (observation and play scripts)
  - Railways (poetry writing)
  - Victorian weddings (diary writing)
  - Childhood (rich and poor, diary writing)
  - Public life and leisure time (comparison)
  - Working life (jobs then and now)
  - Citizenship (social issues, stereotyping, art activity)

# VICTORIAN LIFE

ROYAL PUMP ROOM MUSEUM



## NATIONAL CURRICULUM LINKS

### HISTORY

**KS1: Unit 1 - HOW ARE OUR TOYS DIFFERENT FROM THOSE IN THE PAST?** The 'Toy Shop' display window contains examples of toys that Victorian children played with for pupils to see. The 'Toys and Pastimes' workshop on offer will show pupils the similarities and differences with toys played with today. This features toys up to 1960's or can be tailored just to Victorian toys.

**KS1: Unit 2 - WHAT WERE HOMES LIKE A LONG TIME AGO?** This pack can be used to explore the differences in furniture, household objects and homes during Victorian times.

**KS2: Unit 11 - WHAT WAS IT LIKE FOR CHILDREN LIVING IN VICTORIAN BRITAIN?** The information provides excellent clear and distinct examples of Victorian children from rich and poor backgrounds such as toys they had and whether they went to school or worked.

**KS2: Unit 12 - HOW DID LIFE CHANGE IN OUR LOCALITY IN VICTORIAN TIMES?** Throughout the different themes are examples of life within the Harrogate district such as information about new public buildings, jobs people did and shops that existed.

**KS3: Unit 11 – INDUSTRIAL CHANGES REACTION AND ACTION** Particularly the sections on work life, domestic life and transport will teach pupils of the impact of industrial changes on everyday life in the nineteenth century. Locally the development of the railway allowed Harrogate to develop as England's premier spa town.

**KS3: Unit 12 - SNAPSHOT 1900 – WHAT WAS MIDDLE CLASS LIFE LIKE?** Object images in this pack, such as shopping bills, posters on temperance and funeral procession information, will help pupils build an image of the everyday lives of wealthier Victorians. The permanent displays showcase the history of the spa in Harrogate with treatments to see and information about visitors who came to 'take the waters' who were middle and upper class.

## **CITIZENSHIP**

### **KS1/2: Unit 4 - PEOPLE WHO HELP US – THE LOCAL POLICE**

The development of a more formalised police force during Victorian times as well as other public services can be used to discuss the role of such organisations then and now.

### **KS2: Unit 8 - HOW DO RULES AND LAWS AFFECT ME?**

The changes in laws regarding children working and going to school discussed within this pack are a clear way to show pupils the direct impact the law can have on their lives.

### **KS3: Unit 12 - WHY DID MEN AND WOMEN HAVE TO STRUGGLE FOR THE VOTE IN BRITAIN? WHAT IS THE POINT OF VOTING TODAY?**

Looking at issues such as women's rights in marriage and women's roles in Victorian society is a good starting point for discussing the development of democracy in Britain through to the present day. This could lead on to covering topics in Unit 7 – LOCAL DEMOCRACY and Unit 14 – DEVELOPING SKILLS OF DEMOCRATIC PARTICIPATION.

## **DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY**

**KS1 / 2:** Objects on show, especially toys, can reinforce learning about how objects move covering **Units 2A – VEHICLES, Unit 2C – WINDING UP, Unit 5C –MOVING TOYS** and **Unit 6C - FAIRGROUNDS**. The 'Victorian Engineer' workshops on offer are designed to teach these topics.

## **SCIENCE**

**KS1 / 2:** As with Design and Technology, moving objects on show can reinforce learning on topics such as **Unit 1E – PUSHES AND PULLS, Unit 2E - FORCES AND MOVEMENT, Unit 3E – FRICTION** and **Unit 6E – FORCES IN ACTION**. Again, the 'Victorian Engineer' workshops are designed to teach these topics.

## **ENGLISH**

This pack is designed to encourage discussion about the different objects used to today and between rich and poor people in Victorian times. 'The Railway Station' painting by William Powell Frith is enclosed. The accompanying sheets can be used to explain about some of the people in the painting and encourage children to write their own character outline.

### **KS 3 Unit 7A: SELF IMAGE (year 7)**

The character sheets for 'The Railway Station' painting can be used to explain about some of the people in the painting and encourage children to write their own character outline and/or draw a character of their own.



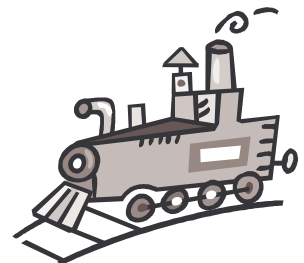
## WORKSHOPS ON OFFER

### Be a Victorian Engineer for the Day!

(2 hours at school or at the museum)

Using a large-scale construction kit, the young engineers will build a range of simple machines and mechanisms, incorporating gears & cogs, drive chains, cams and wheels & axles to explore how objects move, turn and spin.

Throughout the activity, children will also investigate many scientific and technological principles including forces, levers & pivots, energy and structures & frameworks.



Museum objects and exhibits will also be used in the workshops to emphasise and highlight the above themes in a real life/real world context – in particular the development and growth of the railways.

Time permitting, a demonstration will be given to show how the potential energy in steam can make objects move and turn – a mini Steam Engine!

#### **This workshop links to closely to the Key Stage 2 curriculum:**

- Science Unit 4E Friction **and** Unit 6E Forces in Action
- Design and Technology Unit 5C Moving Toys, Unit 6A Shelters, Unit 6C Fairground **and** Unit 6D Controllable Vehicles
- **History: Victorians and How people in this area lived in the past**

The workshop can be adapted for other Key Stages, please just ask!

**Sessions are charged at £95 per class and available on request.**

## **Victorian Life** (2 hours)

This is a hands-on session where children can learn about the different toys, domestic objects and clothing used in Victorian times to build a picture of what life must have been like. There will be an opportunity to dress up in Victorian costume and to play our Victorian 'Mystery Objects' game. Children can also make their own poor Victorian child's toy to take home after looking at some authentic Victorian Toys.

Curriculum links:

**History Unit 1: How are our toys different from those in the past? Unit 2: What were homes like a long time ago? Unit 11: What was it like for children living in Victorian Britain? D&T Unit 5C: Moving toys**

Why not combine this with a visit to the Royal Pump Room Museum to discover all about Victorian Harrogate?

These sessions are charged at £45 and are available on request – please contact us to arrange.

## **FOR ALL SCHOOL SESSIONS:**

To make a booking please call **01423 556 188**. Please book early to avoid disappointment.

All bookings will receive an invoice shortly afterwards. A deposit of 40% will be retained if the booking is cancelled less than 3 weeks prior to the session date. This is charged in order to cover our costs when cancelling the session leader at short notice.

# VICTORIAN LIFE

ROYAL PUMP ROOM MUSEUM



## HOME LIFE

As with many areas of life, homes changed a lot during the nineteenth century. The museum collections include objects that demonstrate differences to home life today, such as the charcoal iron (image below), crimping irons and a patent egg beater.



Charcoal iron

Homes were maintained by women but controlled by men. They were seen as the heart of domestic bliss - a safe haven - where people could show their wealth through their home décor.

However, this was not the reality for the poor living in the slums of the developing towns and cities. By 1851 more British people lived in urban areas than in the countryside. There was overcrowding and poor sanitation which caused unhealthy conditions and the spread of disease.

Families were still large, with the average farmer having at least seven children. This did start to decrease and the average number was five by 1900. Most upper and middle class families lived in large and comfortable houses.

This meant an enormous amount of work was involved in feeding the Victorian family. Well-off families would employ at least one servant. In poorer families the children would help. All the cutting, chopping, mincing, grating, beating and mixing of food had to be done by hand.

There were lots of implements invented in Victorian times to help with domestic chores, such as this knife cleaning machine, and black lead brushes.



Knife-  
cleaning  
machine

There were no electric lights in Victorian times. Candles became cheaper in the 1840s when paraffin wax was discovered and cheaper oil for lamps gave better light after dark than ever before. Most homes had gas lighting by the end of the Victorian era, which gave even better lighting and allowed people to stay up later into the evenings. There was no central heating either but open fires.