

E-Content Resources in History (Secondary stage)

Resource 3

| S. N. | AREA OF MATA DATA | TO BE FILLED BY CONTENT GENERATOR(S) |
|--------------|---|---|
| 1 | Topic | Effects of the Industrial Revolution on children in London |
| 2 | Subject | History |
| 3 | Topic connected which area of subject? | Work, Life and Leisure |
| 4 | Class/ Level | X |
| 5 | Objectives | 1 To understand the effects of Industrial Revolution on children. 2 To use pictures as an aid to make children understand the harrowing conditions of children who worked in the factories. |
| 6 | Summary | The Industrial Revolution began in England as a result of many factors like the enclosure system, inventions and discoveries and host of other factors. Here we will discuss about the negative effects of Industrial Revolution on children. |
| 7 | Key Words | Industrial Revolution, child labour, mines, factory system. |
| 8 | Team of content persons | Anjali Roy, PGT History South Delhi Public School |
| 9 | Subject Coordinator | Dr. Seema S. Ojha |
| 10 | CIET Coordinator | |

1. EFFECTS OF INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION ON CHILDREN WORKING IN FACTORIES

Child labour was not new to the time of industrial revolution. Children were an important part of the family economy in preindustrial times, working in the fields or carding and spinning wool at home. With the coming of industrial revolution, however, child labour was exploited more than ever. Childrens' delicate and small size bodies were appreciated by early cotton factory owners as they had delicate touch as spinners and were able to crawl under machines to gather loose cotton . Above all, children represented a cheap supply of labour.

CHILD LABOUR

Large numbers of children were employed in factories which were easy to operate. These children were subjected to unhealthy working conditions, long hours, and harsh punishment. The children were employed in cotton textile factories, mines, match makers, nail making factory, etc.

The Industrial Revolution thus changed the lives of children in the following ways:

1. Instead of working in their farms under the watchful eyes of their parents, they now worked far from their house in factories, brickyards or mines.
2. Since living in cities was very expensive, it was necessary for children of poor families to work.
3. A child labour worked the same hours as adults but were paid 10% of an adult wage. They not only worked long hours in dangerous conditions but they were also beaten.

PICTURE DEPICTING A TYPICAL DAY OF A CHILD LABOUR

Child Labor

The Day of a Child Laborer, William Cooper

William Cooper began working in a textile factory at the age of ten. He had a sister who worked upstairs in the same factory. In 1832, Cooper was called to testify before a parliamentary committee about the conditions among child laborers in the textile industry. The following sketch of his day is based upon his testimony.



5 A.M. The workday began. Cooper and his sister rose as early as 4:00 or 4:30 in order to get to the factory by 5:00. Children usually ate their breakfast on the run.



12 NOON The children were given a 40-minute break for lunch. This was the only break they received all day.



3 P.M. The children often became drowsy during the afternoon or evening hours. In order to keep them awake, adult overseers sometimes whipped the children.



6 P.M. There was no break allowed for an evening meal. Children again ate on the run.



9 P.M. William Cooper's day ended after an exhausting 16-hour shift at work.



11 P.M. Cooper's sister worked another two hours even though she had to be back at work at 5:00 the next morning.

<http://image.slidesharecdn.com/2impactoftheindustrialrevolutionppt-140311003419-phpapp01/95/2-impact-of-the-industrial-revolution-ppt-9-638.jpg?cb=1394498134>

CHILDREN WORKING IN TEXTILE FACTORIES



<http://questgarden.com/151/54/2/121115195126/images/5.jpg>

The children working in textile factories were made to work for long hours with a single break. Children sometimes fell on the machines out of sheer exhaustion and lost their limbs. Sometimes, they also got crushed in the machines due to sheer exhaustion.

MATCH MAKING FACTORIES



http://i.dailymail.co.uk/i/pix/2010/09/16/article-1312764-0B389DD2000005DC-471_468x354.jpg

The children who worked in these factories suffered from a horrible disease from inhaling phosphorus. Phosphorus ate at their jawbones, leading to brain damage and death.

Many children were injured or killed while working in the factories. If the children were late, the punishment was severe.

USE OF CHILD LABOUR IN MINES



<http://irrk.weebly.com/uploads/4/9/5/4/49543347/1430234141.png>

Children had leather belts tied to them which had a chain attached so that they could pull heavy loads.

The invention of steam engine increased the demand for coal. The coal production grew from 5 million tons in 1750 to 23 million tons in 1830. Mines were not only unhealthy but they were dangerous also. Many accidents took place in the mines, such as cave-ins, hand accidents occurred due to fingers being broken or crushed. Children inhaled dust which led to Miner's Consumption (pulmonary tuberculosis) and Black Lung.

FOR STUDENTS

Q1 Although child labour in Britain has become a thing of the past in Britain, it remains a social problem and political issue for developing countries today. In the light of this find out the answers for the following questions-

1. Can you draw comparisons from India? Do you think the Indian government has improved the condition of children in India?
2. Find out the year when Indian government passed law against child labour. Mention the age limit also.

(Answer-The Child Labour Act was passed in 1986.It prohibits the employment of children below the age of 14 years in hazardous occupations via a list. The list was expanded in 2006, and again in 2008.)

FOR TEACHERS TO INITIATE DISCUSSION IN CLASS

1. Do you think it is advisable for small children to work?
2. Observe the above photos. What do you think is the age of these children?