

HENRY COX - A VICTORIAN

1. Using Objects

- a. As an introduction to the Victorian period, using objects to set the time and place can be very effective. Using objects of different shapes and sizes and made from a variety of materials can be used to encourage descriptions of shape, size, and materials.
- b. You can usually borrow objects from your local Museum Service. Contact your local Council to find out where the Museums Loan Services are in your area.
- c. Placing the objects in a textile bag can create an interactive experience and focuses attention on describing the object in the bag.
- d. Useful questions to ask a group about their covered objects
 - i. What shape is the object?
 - ii. How heavy is it?
 - iii. What is it made from?
 - iv. What do you think the object is?
- e. After 10 minutes of discussion ask the children to slowly reveal their objects one by one. The class may wish to discuss the revealed object. Useful questions to ask about the revealed objects are;
 - i. Who do you think used it?
 - ii. What stories could these objects tell us about people's lives in the past?
 - iii. Who could tell us more about these objects? (This is a useful question to make the link to the audio segment)

2. Using Images and Video

- a. Using one or two images of old mills in the local area can be a useful way to start discussion about what happened inside the mills in Victorian times.
- b. There are some useful videos that can be shown to illustrate the movement of machinery and the noise of the cotton mills.
 - i. Spinning and Weaving in the 19th century at Quarry Bank in Manchester – 3 minutes
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3J1DOHC24m4>
 - ii. Weaving mill Queen Street Cotton Mill Museum, Burnley. 6 minutes -
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LtALjfYav0k&feature=related>
 - iii. Spinning yarn at woollen mill – 1 minute
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=idsqRPx5aIM&feature=endscreen&NR=1>

3. Mill Life in Victorian Times – the story of Henry Cox

a. Henry Cox and the Doctor.

- i. Having established that Henry Cox was a Victorian and lived in Victorian times, listen to the audio segment of Henry Cox's medical examination. You can also download the handout on Henry Cox and the Doctor. Useful questions to ask children are;
 1. What are the differences and similarities with visiting a doctor today?
 2. Did the doctor do his job properly?
 3. Why did Henry have to remember to say "Sir"?
 4. What is half-time work?

b. Henry Cox leaving school

- i. With KS2 you might like to read Henry's account of leaving school and starting his first job. Useful points for discussion are;
 1. What sort of money does Henry talk about and what are shillings?
 2. Was it fair for Henry to work his first two weeks without pay!
 3. How was Henry treated at work and what did he eat?