

The Victorians: Lives of the Rich and Poor

Compare the lives of rich and poor Victorian people by completing the Venn diagram with the words below.

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|------------------------------|------------------|
| hard-wearing clothes | framed portraits |
| back-to-back houses | toilets |
| servants' quarters | suits |
| top hats | long dresses |
| clothes washed by hand | peg dolls |
| all family members working | strict teachers |
| beautifully carved furniture | 3 Rs |
| polished wooden floors | kitchen staff |
| Industrial Revolution | waistcoats |
| rocking horses | small houses |
| harsh school punishments | |

Task Instructions:

You will have to compare the lives of the rich and poor during Victorian times. You need to choose from the given statements and put them into the right section (rich, both, poor) in the Venn diagram.

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Using your knowledge of the lives of the rich and poor in Victorian Britain and the information provided, complete the Venn diagram with notes.

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|--|--|
| Some families lived in small houses with several family members sharing the same bedroom. | It was the start of the Industrial Revolution so there was an increase in jobs and employment, particularly for those who had skills or who were strong and able workers. |
| Houses had polished wooden floors, beautifully carved furniture and framed portraits. | Men wore suits, waistcoats and top hats. Women wore long dresses with hoops or petticoats. |
| Back-to-back houses were built in rows. | Clothes were often badly fitted, dirty or worn out. They were made to last a long time rather than be luxurious. |
| Servants or kitchen staff lived in servants' quarters in their houses. | Every member of the family needed to work. |
| There were no toilets inside the house. | Children would have toys, such as rocking horses, dolls' houses or train sets. |
| Clothes were washed by hand using soap and water. | School lessons focused on the 3 Rs: reading, writing and arithmetic. |

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Using your knowledge of the lives of the rich and poor in Victorian Britain and the information provided, complete the Venn diagram with notes.

| | | |
|---|--|--|
| Punishment in school was very strict. Children who misbehaved might be forced to wear a dunce cap. | It was the start of the Industrial Revolution so there was an increase in jobs and employment, particularly for those who had skills or who were strong and able workers. | Houses had polished wooden floors, beautifully carved furniture and framed portraits. |
| Every member of the family needed to work. | Men wore suits, waistcoats and top hats. Women wore long dresses with hoops or petticoats. | There were no toilets inside the house. |
| Sewage trickled down the street due to the lack of underground sewers. | Clothes were often badly fitted, dirty or worn out. They were made to last a long time rather than be luxurious. | Clothes were washed by hand using soap and water. |
| Back-to-back houses were built in rows. | Some families lived in small houses with several family members sharing the same bedroom. | School lessons focused on the 3 Rs: reading, writing and arithmetic. |
| Servants or kitchen staff lived in servants' quarters in their houses. | Large houses had gardens with manicured lawns, flowerbeds and long gravel pathways. | Children would make their own toys, such as peg dolls. |
| Candles or gas lamps were used to light homes. | Children would have toys, such as rocking horses, dolls' houses or train sets. | Clothes were dried using a mangle. |

Rich

Poor

