

Knowledge Organiser: What was the impact of the Industrial Revolution on Sheffield?



Between 1750 and 1850, Britain changed dramatically from being an agricultural to an industrial country. Factories mass produced goods using steam-driven machines. This was the period when Sheffield industrialised and grew to become one of the largest cities in the UK but this came at a cost to health and the environment. This unit will look at the CONSEQUENCES of the Industrial Revolution for Sheffield.		Chronology: What happened on these dates in Sheffield?		Vocabulary: define these words	
Summarise your learning		c1740	Benjamin Huntsman invented the crucible method of making steel, and by the end of the century Sheffield was supplying the world with engineering and tool steel.	Industrial Revolution	The period from 1750-1900 when Britain changed from an agrarian and domestic economy to one dominated by industry and machine manufacturing.
Topic 1: What was the Industrial Revolution?	The Industrial Revolution was the rapid development of industry that occurred in Britain in the 18th and 19th centuries, brought about by the introduction of machinery. It was characterized by the use of steam power, the growth of factories, and the mass production of manufactured goods. It led to mass urbanisation and the growth of towns and cities like Sheffield.	1740s	Thomas Bolsover invented Old Sheffield Plate through the fusion of silver and copper. Fashionable tableware and ornaments were now produced for an expanding English middle class.	Urbanization	The increase in the proportion of people living in towns and cities.
				Industrialisation	The process by which an economy is transformed from primarily agricultural to one based on the manufacturing of goods.
Topic 2: What was the impact of the Industrial Revolution on Sheffield?	Sheffield developed in the Industrial Revolution because of its geography as the rivers made it an ideal location for water-powered industries to develop. Sheffield and the surrounding areas provided many of the materials that made mass production and mechanisation possible including coal, iron and steel. This caused Sheffield to industrialise and its population grew from 7000 people at the beginning of the 1700s to 451,000 by 1900.	1819	Sheffield Canal opened. This allowed canal boats to transport greater quantities of steel to ports on the coast via the canal network.	Coal Mining	The process of extracting coal from the ground.
				Factories	A group of buildings where goods are manufactured or assembled mainly by machine.
Topic 3: How did inventions and transport impact Sheffield?	Inventions including the steam engine, locomotive, Bessemer process for steel, electricity and telephone all helped industry and businesses to develop. Sheffield's transport infrastructure was also improved with turnpike roads, a tramway, canal and railway.	1832	Sheffield Cholera outbreak led to the deaths of 402 people.	Epidemic	A widespread outbreak of an infectious disease in a community at a particular time.
				Child Labour	The employment of children in an industry or business.
Topic 4: How did the Industrial Revolution affect Sheffield's children?	Children were employed to work in cotton mills, factories and coal mines. Many were orphans or abandoned children and worked in poor conditions. Children were used to work because they were cheap labour, easy to control, and small and nimble to work in small spaces.	1856	Henry Bessemer's converter was invented which made steel. This allowed industry in Sheffield to boom and created lots of jobs. This was further developed by Harry Brearley.	Cholera	An infectious and often fatal disease of the small intestine, causing severe vomiting and diarrhoea.
Topic 5: How did the Industrial Revolution affect Sheffield's health and society?	Sheffield's successful steel industry led to rapid industrialisation and urbanisation as people moved to work in the factories. This led to overcrowding, back to back houses, poor sanitation and disease such as Cholera. It also led to a society divided by the class system with different areas. The worst disaster came with the 1864 Sheffield Flood.	1864	The Sheffield Flood occurred when Dale Dyke burst. 39 houses were completely destroyed, over 4000 houses were flooded and 240 people lost their lives.	Public Health	What the government does to protect the health of the public.
				Locomotive	A steam engine that moved wheels along a set of rails or track – often called a train.



