

Year 4 Knowledge
Organiser -
Time Travellers



During the Tudor period, fairs were held to celebrate saint's days in local towns. Children would have watched jesters walking on stilts, juggling or performing tricks; watched archery demonstrations; bought food; and enjoyed plays. By the Victorian period, there were swingboats and carousels. Today, technology has transformed fairgrounds into huge theme parks.



How have children's lives changed?

Health

Many children did not live to adulthood in Tudor and Victorian England. They were malnourished due to poor harvests. Diseases such as smallpox, cholera and the plague spread rapidly. The development of vaccines, antibiotics and medical care has led to children recovering from illnesses.



Apprentices

Children as young as seven left home in the Tudor and Victorian times to become apprentices. They swore an oath to remain loyal to their master. In return they received training, board and lodging. Children – mostly boys – trained to become blacksmiths, cobblers, gong farmers, shipmakers, publishers and more.



Key vocabulary

apprentice – A young person who learns a trade or occupation in return for accommodation, clothing and food.

change – Things that have not remained the same over time.

childhood – The time between infancy and adolescence.

continuity – Things that remain the same over time.

leisure time – Free time spent relaxing, entertaining or enjoying hobbies.

oath – A solemn promise.

Parliament – Comprising of the House of Commons, the House of Lords, and the Monarchy, Parliament passes laws and checks the work of the Government.

poverty – Having insufficient money to pay for accommodation, food, heating or clothing.

primary source – An original document from the period being studied that has not been changed in any way.

secondary source – A document or a record that was not written at the time of the event studied.

Lord Shaftesbury 1801-1885

Lord Shaftesbury was president of the Ragged School Union, which encouraged the establishment of schools to give working children an education outside working houses. He also publicised the poor working conditions of children and introduced the Ten Hour Act, reducing the number of hours children worked.

Lord Shaftesbury 1801-1885

