

**? How did life differ for the rich and poor in the Georgian Period?**

**Key Figures**

Hanover Kings-  
George I,II ,III,IV  
James Watt  
James Hargreaves  
Robert Walpole  
William Pitt

- People– Who were the Hanovers and how did their rule differ from the Stuarts?
- Power– Why was the industrial revolution so significant in British history?
- Place in History- What else was going on in the world during this period?
- Purpose– How did the Industrial revolution impact the lives of people in Cheshire?



**Links**

Stuarts (Year 4 ) and Victorians (Year 5)  
World War I and II (Year 6)  
Key Stage 1 (Summer Term)

**Key Knowledge Focus**

- ⇒ The Georgian period saw Britain establish itself as an international power at the centre of an expanding empire. And accelerating change from the 1770s onwards made it the world’s first industrialised nation.
- ⇒ George III (r.1760–1820), the first Hanoverian king born in England, was affectionately nicknamed ‘Farmer George’ because of his interest in agriculture. Many of his richer rural subjects were busily (and profitably) improving farming methods. Meanwhile, smallholders and customary tenants were impoverished by the enclosure of land and the commercialisation of agriculture.
- ⇒ By the Act of Succession of 1701, on the death of Queen Anne the throne passed to her nearest Protestant relative. This proved to be George, Elector of Hanover , the great-grandson of James I.
- ⇒ During this period the United Kingdom is created when Great Britain (England, Scotland and Wales) and Ireland are formally joined under the Act of Union in 1801.
- ⇒ Focus on developing trading networks and routes. Companies such as the East India Company.
- ⇒ Britain gained dominance in slave trade and sugar
- ⇒ Population growth 5 million in 1700 to 9 million by 1801
- ⇒ 1722 legislation for poor relief in work houses. 2000 were housing 100,000 people
- ⇒ England was in economic depression following the war with France in 1815. People moved to cities looking for employment

- ⇒ 1757 First canal in Britain is completed
- ⇒ 1771 'Factory Age' begins with the opening of Britain's first cotton mill
- ⇒ 1779 World's first cast iron bridge built in Ironbridge, England
- ⇒ 1780's Industrial Revolution begins.
- ⇒ 1807 25th March Britain abolishes the slave trade
- ⇒ 1825 27th September World's first steam locomotive passenger service opens between Stockton and Darlington
- ⇒ June 1829 - Robert Peel set up the Metropolitan Police force
- ⇒ 1833 Factory Act restricts work hours for women and children  
Under the terms of the act, mill owners were required to show that children up to age 13 received two hours of schooling, six days per week.
- ⇒ 1833 31 July Parliament passes a bill to abolish slavery in the British empire
- ⇒ 1834 The Poor Law set up workhouses, where people without homes or jobs could live in return for doing unpaid workers

**The Industrial Revolution**

- ⇒ The lives of many more, especially in the north and midlands, were transformed by the rapid progress after 1770 of the Industrial Revolution. England was turned into the ‘workshop of the world’ by new technologies like steam power, improved transport networks and enterprising men like the iron-founding Darby’s of Iron Bridge, the pottery manufacturer Josiah Wedgwood, and the cotton mill owner Richard Arkwright.
- ⇒ Key to the success of many industries were the new manufactories – or factories – operated by hordes of ill-paid workers, including many women and children.
- ⇒ The demands of war further increased the pace of the Industrial Revolution.

**Topic**

Hanoverian  
Industrialise  
Wealthy  
Work Houses  
Sovereign  
Power Loom

**Skill**

Continuity and change  
Cause and effect  
Account  
Sources  
Primary and secondary  
Evidence

**?How did life differ for the rich and poor in the Georgian Period ?**

**Key Figures**

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**Key Knowledge Focus**

- ⇒ The slump that followed peace, however, resulted in political and social unrest, ruthlessly suppressed after the Peterloo Massacre of 1819, when cavalry charged a peaceful crowd gathered to demand parliamentary reform. Although the limited political concessions of the Great Reform Act of 1832 averted further troubles, it still allowed only about one in six Englishmen to vote.
- ⇒ In the early 18th Century British Industries were small scale cottage industries centred in small workshops or in the homes of individual manufacturers. Different regions specialised in different industries. Midlands– Metal North East– Coal mining
- ⇒ Agricultural changes in technology and cheap labour led to unemployment and poverty in rural areas. People left the countryside looking for work in towns and cities.
- ⇒ Changes in steam technology 1712 Newcomen– Steam driven piston engines were at work in England in mines, mills and other industries. 1769 Arkwright ‘water frame’ enables large scale spinning on a single machine. Hargreaves ‘Spinning Jenny’ followed which changed cotton spinning. Cartwright’s power loom in 1785 allowed for mass production of cloth. Manufactories were the result of new technologies which employed hundreds of adult and child workers.
- ⇒ Mine owners and industrialists funded canal networks to make transport links from mines to industrial centres.

**What else in going on in the world?**

- ⇒ May 1756 The Seven Year War with France begins
- ⇒ 1769 James Cook becomes the first European to land on New Zealand
- ⇒ 1770 James Cook 'discovers' the south east coast of Australia, landing in Botany Bay.
- ⇒ 1773 16th December Boston Tea Party
- ⇒ 1775 18th April American War of Independence begins
- ⇒ 1776 America declares independence from Britain on July 4 1776
- ⇒ 1789 14 July French Revolution begins with the storming of the Bastille
- ⇒ 1793 1st February Britain goes to war with France War continued until the final defeat of Napoleon at the Battle of Waterloo in 1815.

**What was life in Cheshire like during the Georgian period?**

- ⇒ During the 18th century, the little town continued to flourish. St Peter’s Church was built in Congleton in 1742. Then in 1752, a silk mill was built in the town. Silk manufacture soon became an important industry in Congleton by John Clayton.
- ⇒ In 1801 at the time of the first census, Congleton had a population of 3,861. By the standards of the time, it was a fair-sized market town. Congleton grew rapidly during the early 19th century but the population then levelled off. In 1901 Congleton had a population of 10,707.
- ⇒ The silk industry continued in Congleton in the early and mid 19th centuries. However, in the late 19th century it went into decline. Today industry in Congleton is mainly light manufacturing.
- ⇒ Meanwhile during the 19th century amenities in Congleton improved. In 1833 Congleton gained gaslight. Then in 1848, the railway reached Congleton. A new Town Hall opened in 1866. Also in 1866, a cottage hospital opened in the town. (It was replaced by War Memorial Hospital in 1924). In 1871 Congleton park opened. A waterworks opened in Congleton in 1881.

**Georgian properties**

- ⇒ The Bath House was built circa 1820. It was in use by the occupants of Bradshaw House, as a private plunge pool.



⇒ Bradshaw House -The Georgian town house was built in 1820. It replaced a house that had been occupied by John Bradshaw,



Congleton Mayor in 1637, and president of the court that sentenced King Charles I to death. The current Bradshaw House is a fine example of a merchant’s town house

**Key Scientific Discoveries/ developments**

Henry Cavendish– Hydrogen 1771  
Priestly Oxygen and ammonia  
Lady Mary Montagu 1717 Inoculation against smallpox  
Guys Hospital 1921