Highfield Middle School – Home Learning

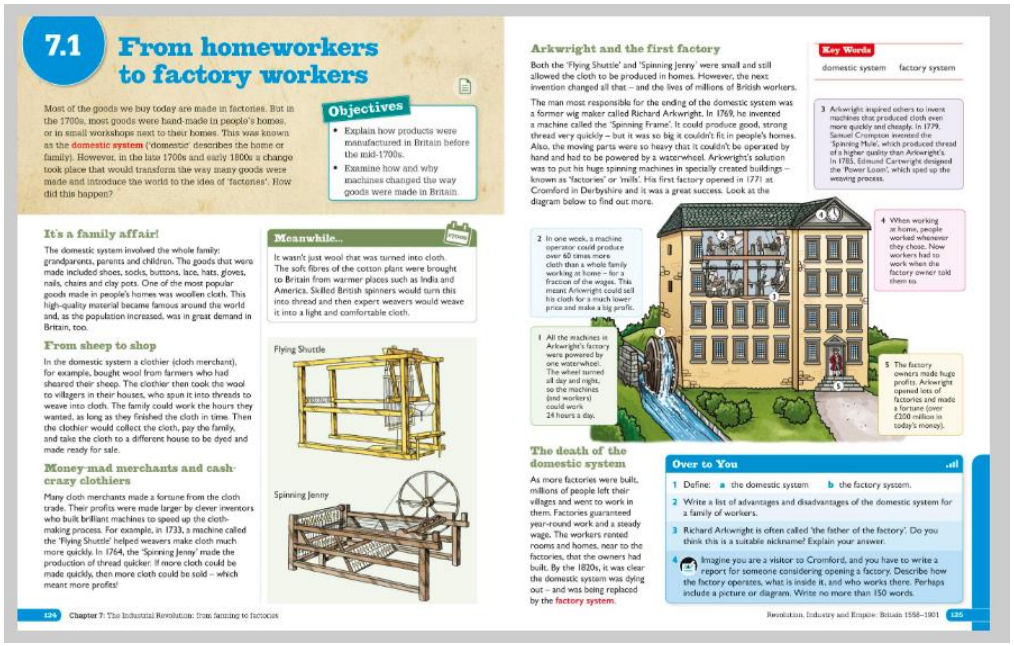
Year 8 History – Kerboodle Chapter 7 'The Industrial Revolution: from farming to factories'

Week One tasks

This chapter in the Kerboodle book is all about the Industrial Revolution and how Britain changed at this time. I will be setting you pages to read and tasks to complete each week.

To begin with, you will need to log in to kerboodle (check the help sheet on the HMS website if you are unsure). Once you have logged in, you will need to click on KS3 History 4th Edition. You will then be able to see any assignments you have been given, and complete them by clicking on the 'assessment' tab. You will also be able to look at the student book by clicking on 'digital book'.

7.1 – From homeworkers to factory workers. Read the pages and complete the end of lesson assessment quiz. As an extension, you could also try completing some or all of the tasks in the book.



7.1 From homeworkers to factory workers

Most of the goods we buy today are made in factories. But in the 1700s, most goods were hand-made in people's homes, or in small workshops next to their homes. This was known as the domestic system ('domestic' describes the home or family). However, in the late 1700s and early 1800s a change took place that would transform the way many goods were made and introduce the world to the idea of 'factories'. How did this happen?

Objectives
- Explain how products were manufactured in Britain before the mid-1700s.
- Examine how and why machines changed the way goods were made in Britain.

It's a family affair!

The domestic system involved the whole family: grandparents, parents and children. The goods that were made included shoes, socks, buttons, lace, hats, gloves, nails, chains and clay pots. One of the most popular goods made in people's homes was woollen cloth. This high-quality material became famous around the world and, as the population increased, was in great demand in Britain, too.

From sheep to shop

In the domestic system a clothier (cloth merchant), for example, bought wool from farmers who had sheared their sheep. The clothier then took the wool to villagers in their houses, who spun it into threads to weave into cloth. The family could work the hours they wanted, as long as they finished the cloth in time. Then the clothier would collect the cloth, pay the family, and take the cloth to a different house to be dyed and made ready for sale.

Money-mad merchants and cash-crazy clothiers

Many cloth merchants made a fortune from the cloth trade. Their profits were made larger by clever inventors who built brilliant machines to speed up the cloth-making process. For example, in 1733, a machine called the 'Flying Shuttle' helped weavers make cloth much more quickly. In 1764, the 'Spinning Jenny' made the production of thread quicker. If more cloth could be made quickly, then more cloth could be sold – which meant more profits!

Meanwhile...

It wasn't just wool that was turned into cloth. The soft fibres of the cotton plant were brought to Britain from warmer places such as India and America. Skilled British spinners would turn this into thread and then expert weavers would weave it into a light and comfortable cloth.

Flying Shuttle

Spinning Jenny

Arkwright and the first factory

Both the 'Flying Shuttle' and 'Spinning Jenny' were small and still allowed the cloth to be produced in homes. However, the next invention changed all that – and the lives of millions of British workers.

The man most responsible for the ending of the domestic system was a former wig maker called Richard Arkwright. In 1769, he invented a machine called the 'Spinning Frame'. It could produce good, strong thread very quickly – but it was so big it couldn't fit in people's homes. Also, the moving parts were so heavy that it couldn't be operated by hand and had to be powered by a waterwheel. Arkwright's solution was to put his huge spinning machines in specially created buildings – known as 'factories' or 'mills'. His first factory opened in 1771 at Cromford in Derbyshire and it was a great success. Look at the diagram below to find out more.

Key Words
domestic system
factory system

1 All the machines in Arkwright's factory were powered by one waterwheel. The wheel turned all day and night, so the machines (and workers) could work 24 hours a day.

2 In one week, a machine operator could produce over 60 times more cloth than a whole family working at home – for a fraction of the wages. This meant Arkwright could sell his cloth for a much lower price and make a big profit.

3 Arkwright inspired others to invent machines that produced cloth even more quickly and cheaply. In 1779, Samuel Crompton invented the 'Spinning Mule', which produced thread of a higher quality than Arkwright's. In 1785, Edmund Cartwright designed the 'Power Loom', which sped up the weaving process.

4 When working at home, people worked whenever they chose. Now workers had to work when the factory owner told them to.

5 The factory owners made huge profits. Arkwright opened lots of factories and made a fortune (over £200 million in today's money).

The death of the domestic system

As more factories were built, millions of people left their villages and went to work in them. Factories guaranteed year-round work and a steady wage. The workers rented rooms and homes, near to the factories, that the owners had built. By the 1820s, it was clear the domestic system was dying out – and was being replaced by the factory system.

Over to You

1 Define: a the domestic system b the factory system.
2 Write a list of advantages and disadvantages of the domestic system for a family of workers.
3 Richard Arkwright is often called 'the father of the factory'. Do you think this is a suitable nickname? Explain your answer.
4 Imagine you are a visitor to Cromford, and you have to write a report for someone considering opening a factory. Describe how the factory operates, what is inside it, and who works there. Perhaps include a picture or diagram. Write no more than 150 words.

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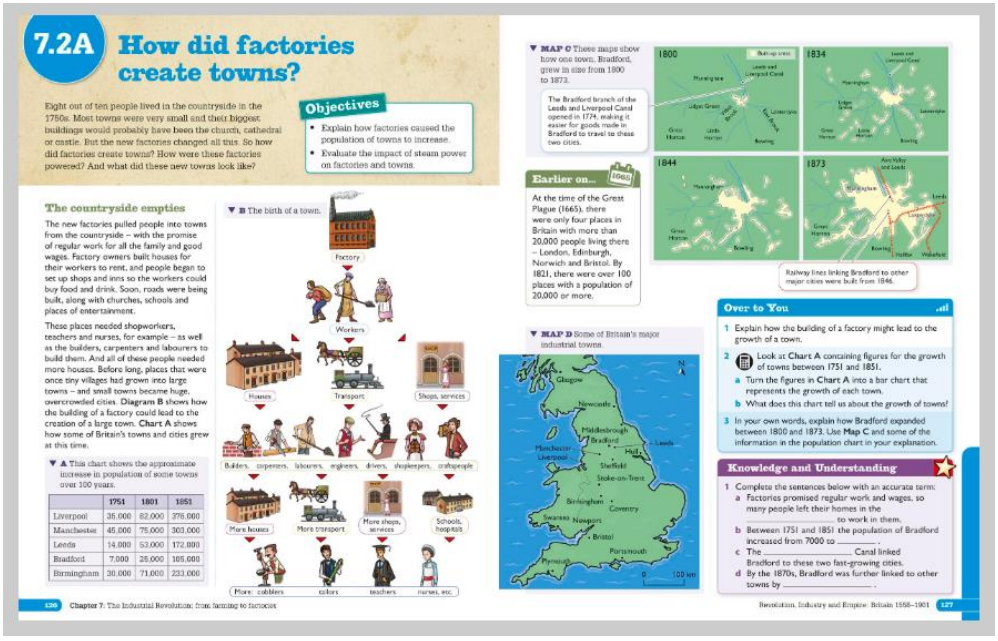
7.2a – How did factories create towns? Read the pages and complete the end of lesson assessment quiz. As an extension, you could also try completing some or all of the tasks in the book.



7.2A How did factories create towns?

Eight out of ten people lived in the countryside in the 1750s. Most towns were very small and their biggest buildings would probably have been the church, cathedral or castle. But the new factories changed all this. So how did factories create towns? How were these factories powered? And what did these new towns look like?

Objectives
- Explain how factories caused the population of towns to increase.
- Evaluate the impact of steam power on factories and towns.

The countryside empties

The new factories pulled people into towns from the countryside – with the promise of regular work for all the family and good wages. Factory owners built houses for their workers to rent, and people began to set up shops and inns so the workers could buy food and drink. Soon, roads were being built, along with churches, schools and places of entertainment.

These places needed shopworkers, teachers and nurses, for example – as well as the builders, carpenters and labourers to build them. And all of these people needed more houses. Before long, places that were once tiny villages had grown into large towns – and small towns became huge, overcrowded cities. Diagram B shows how the building of a factory could lead to the creation of a large town. Chart A shows how some of Britain's towns and cities grew at this time.

▼ A This chart shows the approximate increase in population of some towns over 100 years.

	1751	1801	1851
Liverpool	35,000	82,000	376,000
Manchester	45,000	75,000	303,000
Leeds	14,000	53,000	172,000
Bradford	7,000	25,000	105,000
Birmingham	30,000	71,000	233,000

▼ B The birth of a town.

Factory
Workers
Houses
Transport
Shops, services
Builders, carpenters, labourers, engineers, drivers, shopkeepers, craftspeople
More houses
More transport
More shops, services
Schools, hospitals
More: cobblers, tailors, teachers, nurses, etc.

▼ MAP C These maps show how one town, Bradford, grew in size from 1800 to 1873.

The Bradford branch of the Leeds and Liverpool Canal opened in 1774, making it easier for goods made in Bradford to travel to these two cities.

1800
1834
1844
1873
Railway lines linking Bradford to other major cities were built from 1846.

Earlier on...

At the time of the Great Plague (1665), there were only four places in Britain with more than 20,000 people living there – London, Edinburgh, Norwich and Bristol. By 1821, there were over 100 places with a population of 20,000 or more.

▼ MAP D Some of Britain's major industrial towns.

Glasgow
Newcastle
Middlesbrough
Bradford
Leeds
Manchester
Liverpool
Hull
Sheffield
Stoke-on-Trent
Birmingham
Coventry
Swansea
Newport
Bristol
Portsmouth
Plymouth
100 km

Over to You

1 Explain how the building of a factory might lead to the growth of a town.
2 Look at Chart A containing figures for the growth of towns between 1751 and 1851.
a Turn the figures in Chart A into a bar chart that represents the growth of each town.
b What does this chart tell us about the growth of towns?
3 In your own words, explain how Bradford expanded between 1800 and 1873. Use Map C and some of the information in the population chart in your explanation.

Knowledge and Understanding

1 Complete the sentences below with an accurate term:
a Factories promised regular work and wages, so many people left their homes in the _____ to work in them.
b Between 1751 and 1851 the population of Bradford increased from 7000 to _____.
c The _____ Canal linked Bradford to these two fast-growing cities.
d By the 1870s, Bradford was further linked to other towns by _____.

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Happy kerboodling Highfielders! Mrs Bell ☺