

Year 5 Merlins History Summer 1

The Industrial Revolution

What was the Industrial Revolution?

The Industrial Revolution was a period of major changes in the way products are made. It took place more than 200 years ago and greatly affected the way people lived as well as the way they worked. In earlier days, people made products by hand. They worked mostly in their own homes or in small workshops. During the Industrial Revolution, many factories were built. Labourers began making large numbers of things using machines powered by engines. England was the first country in which these changes took place.

Important People



Richard Arkwright discovered to use water to power cotton spinning, so that a machine could make thread. He built the first modern factory in England.



Abraham Derby invented a new process for producing strong, cheap iron during the 1700s: the blast furnace.



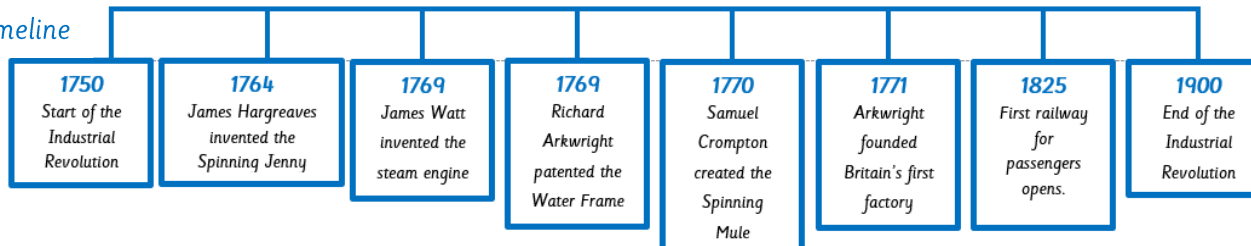
James Watt received the greatest recognition for being the inventor of the steam engine.



George Stephenson engineer who built the first public railway to use steam trains.

Key Vocabulary	Definition
blast furnace	A furnace in the form of a tower, used for smelting iron.
coalfield	An extensive area containing several underground coal deposits.
coalmine	An excavation in the earth for extracting coal.
cottage industry	A business or manufacturing activity completed in a pers
factory	A building where goods are made using machinery.
industrialisation	The development of industries in a country/ region on a wide scale.
invention	The action of inventing something.
locomotive	The engine of a train that pulls the other coaches.
manufacture	To make something on a large scale using machinery.
mass produce	Produce large quantities by an automated mechanical process.
mechanise	Use a machine to do something that was previously done by hand.
migrate	To move from one region to another.
mill	A building equipped with machinery for grinding grain into flour.
pre-industrial	Relating to a time before industrialisation.
smelting	The extraction of metal from its ore by a process involving heating and melting.
society	The aggregate of people living together in a community.
textile	A type of cloth or woven fabric.
urbanisation	The process of making an area more urban (town/ city).
water frame	A spinning frame that is powered by water.

Timeline



How steam engines work

Steam pushes the piston through the cylinder. The piston rod is then pulled into the cylinder, turning the flywheel which pulls the driving rod.

