History - How have children's lives changed?



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 the House of Commons, the House of Lords and the monarch, parliament passes laws and checks the work of the Government.
poverty	Having little money to pay for accommodation, food, heating or clothing.
primary source	An object or record created at the time of an event or period.
secondary source	An object or record created after an event or period.

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.



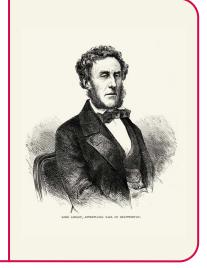




During the Tudor period, fairs were held to celebrate saint's days in local towns. Children would have watched jesters walking on stilts, juggling or performing tricks; watched archery demonstrations; bought food; and enjoyed plays. By the Victorian period, there were swingboats and carousels. Today,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

Lord Shaftesbury 1801-1885

Lord Shaftesbury encouraged the establishment of schools to give working children an education. He also publicised the poor working conditions of children and introduced parliamentary bills to reduce the numbers of hours children worked.



Apprentices

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

