**Word list Victorian England (Industrial revolution).**

**Abacus .**This was a wooden frame with beads on it. It was used to help children with counting sums. 

**Agricultural gang.** This was a group of workers in the countryside, doing jobs like weeding, sowing seeds, and harvesting crops. Often these gangs would include young children.

**Barrel organ.** A musical instrument which was taken round the streets. It played music when the handle was turned. Often the owners of barrel organs had tame monkeys.

**Band of Hope.** Temperance organization which tried to stop people, especially children, from drinking alcohol.

**Boarding school.** A school where children live during term time, coming home for the holidays.

**Boys' Brigade.** Youth organization started in 1883 in Glasgow.

**British Empire.** Countries ruled by Britain; later became the Commonwealth.

**Cane.** Thin stick used by teachers to beat children who misbehaved.

**Census.** This is the record of people living at a certain time. It records how many people there are, where people live, their age and what they do.

**coal mine.** A place where coal is dug from under the ground.

**Coal.** Remains of prehistoric trees, burned in fires. In Victorian times, coal heated homes and provided steam power for machines, trains and ships.

**Contraception.** Another term for birth control, or stopping unwanted pregnancies.

**Cotton.** Comes from a plant. It is spun into thread then woven to make cloth.

**E to G**

**dame school.** A school run in her home by an elderly woman, known as a dame, where children were taught basic reading and writing.

**Diphtheria.** Infectious throat disease that killed many children.

**Emigrated.** To emigrate is to leave your own country to go and live in another.

**Empress.** The female ruler of an empire, or the wife of an emperor.

**Factory.** Building with machines for producing goods in large numbers.

**Factory commission.** A group of men who travelled around Britain to investigate the working conditions of children in both factories and mines.

**Fire grate.** The metal part of a fire and fireplace. 

**Globe.** A map of the world drawn on a sphere, useful in geography lessons. 

**Governess.** A woman who taught rich girls and young boys in their homes, as a paid, live-in servant.

**Grammar school.** Boys' schools, started in the Middle Ages as an alternative to Church schools and giving free education to some boys.

**H to L**

**Hokey-pokey man.** Icecream-seller, originally usually Italian.

**Hopscotch.** A hopping game played in the street or playground.

**Hurdy-gurdy.** A mechanical violin, played by a street musician.

**Industrial revolution.** The era of rapid and great change in industry and manufacturing with the growth of factories, beginning in the late 1700s.

**Ink well.** A small pot for ink, used by school children.

**Logbook.** Diary or record book of events.

**M to O**

**Magic lantern.** A slide projector for showing pictures on a screen.

**Maypol**e. Tall pole with long ribbons, for dancing around on May Day.

**Moral.** A lesson often in a story, about right and wrong.

**Music hall.** Popular Victorian theatre with variety acts such as singers, dancers and comedians.

**Nanny.** servant who cared for rich young children in their nursery at home.

**Nursery.** A room or several rooms where rich children would play and sleep.

**Orphan.** Child with no living parents.

**P to S**

**Parliament.** Law-making body made up of elected Members of Parliament (MPs) and non-elected Lords.

**Piecer.** A child who worked in a mill joining pieces of thread together.

**Population.** The number of people in a country or city.

**public schools.** Fee-charging schools for children from richer families.

**Punch and Judy show.** A hand-puppet show which features Mr Punch and his wife Judy. Common at the seaside in Victorian times.

**Ragged school.** A school for poor children in the early 19th century.

**Reformer.** Person who seeks change for the better, to help others.

**Reign.** The length of time a king or queen rules.

**school board.** A group of people who were responsible for the running of their local school after 1870.

**Scullery.** Small room with a sink, for washing up.

**Shaft.** Deep vertical hole leading down to the tunnels and underground workings of a coal mine.

**Slates.** These were pieces of slate (like a flat stone), sometimes set inside a wooden frame, used for writing - with a special slate pencil. At the end of the lesson the slates were wiped clean with an old cloth.

**Smallpox.** Disease causing fever and, in those who did not die from it, leaving 'pockmarks' on the skin.

**Steam engine.** Engine driven by steam from heated water, used to drive machinery. 

**Slum.** An area of bad housing, with poor hygiene and sanitation.

**Sunday School.** School to teach Christianity: the National Sunday School Union was founded in 1803.

**T to Z**

**Wages.** Workers' pay.

**Wool.** Comes from sheep. It is spun into thread then woven to make cloth.

**Workhouse.** Place where people without means of support (usually the very poor, young and elderly) were sent to live; they got a food and a bed in return for work. Most Victorian towns had a workhouse.

