

What can we tell from this 1871 Census form?

LIST of the MEMBERS of this FAMILY, of VISITORS, of SERVANTS, and of ALL OTHER PERSONS, who SLEPT or ABODE in the Dwelling on the NIGHT of SUNDAY, APRIL 2nd, 1871.

NAME and SURNAME	RELATION to Head of Family	CONDITION	SEX	AGE (Last Birthday)	RANK, PROFESSION, or OCCUPATION	WHERE BORN	If (1) Deaf-and-Dumb (2) Blind (3) Imbecile or Idiot (4) Lunatic
<small>No persons ABSENT on the Night of Sunday, April 2nd, to be entered here. Except those who may be TRAVELLING out at Work during that Night and who RETURN HOME ON MONDAY, APRIL 3RD. Write after the Name of the Head of the Family the names of his Wife, Children, and other relative; then Visitors, &c. and Servants.</small>	<small>State whether Head, or Wife, Son, Daughter or other Relative, Visitor, Boarder, &c or Servant.</small>	<small>Write either "Married" "Widower" "Widow" or "Unmarried" against the Name of all Persons except Young Children</small>	<small>Write "M" against Males and "F" against Females</small>	<small>For Infants under One Year state the Age in Months, writing "1 Month" "3 Months" "9 Months" &c.</small>	<small>Before filling up this Column, you are requested to read the Instructions on the other side.</small>	<small>Opposite the Names of those born in England, write the County and Town, or Parish. If born in Scotland, Ireland, the British Colonies, or the East Indies, state or Country; and if also a British Subject, add "British subject" or "Naturalised British Subject" as the case may be.</small>	<small>Write the respective Infirmities against the name of the afflicted Person; and if so from Birth, add "from Birth".</small>
1 Bartlett Downs Wrangham	Head of Family	Widower	M	41	Cashier	Yorkshire - Sheffield	
2 John Bartlett Wrangham	Son		M	6	Scholar	Yorkshire - Sheffield	
3 Sarah Wrangham	Sister	Unmarried	F	38	Housekeeper	Yorkshire - Sheffield	
4 James Watson	Visitor	Widower	M	59	Vicar	Yorkshire - Sheffield	
5 Annie Elizabeth Hays	Servant	Unmarried	F	21	Cook	Patton - on - Trent	
6 Marsha Jane Hays	Servant	Unmarried	F	14	Carbour maid	Lancashire	
7							
8							
9							
10	<i>To be returned to the Census Office</i>						
11							
12	<i>Sheffield West Sub District</i>						
13							
14			M	F			
15			F	F			

I declare the foregoing to be a true Return, according to the best of my knowledge and belief.
Witness my Hand, (Signature) B D Wrangham

Activity sheet

Teachers' notes

History

History

Rich Child, Poor Child

Rich Child, Poor Child

Theme Living conditions in Victorian times

This unit focuses on life in Victorian times. It tries to convey the differences in living conditions between children in rich and poor families.

Curriculum context History at Key Stage 2. National Curriculum Programmes of Study 1a; 2a, c, d; 3; 4a; 11.

Classroom Ideas

- Use the A3 resource sheet to discuss ways in which life for a poor child in Victorian times would have differed from that of a rich child. Unfamiliar vocabulary will need to be explained to the children.
- Split your class into two groups, the children from each group imagining life as either a rich or poor child in the mid-1800s. Write letters to each other to describe a typical day in their life.
- Compare and contrast a Victorian day with a typical day experienced by a child in 2001.
- Find out more about Victorian families. Discuss possible sources of information e.g. photographs, parish records, gravestones etc. This will lend itself naturally to local visits to museums and libraries.
- Make a survey of children's names in your class/school. Compare these to common Victorian names.
- Lord Shaftesbury tried to get laws passed to stop child labour. What laws would you try to pass at the present time to make life easier for people living today?



Here are a few clues

- Why is Mrs. Wrangham not mentioned on the census form? What do you think happened to her and when?
- What was the name and occupation of the visitor? Why might he have been spending the night at Mr. Wrangham's house?
- What does the census form tell us about the housekeeper?
- How many servants were in the household? What do you think their duties might have been?
- What do you know about John Wrangham from the information on the census form.
- Now think of other questions you might ask.



Rich Child, Poor Child

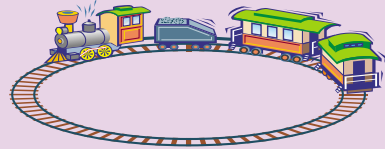


Many rich children went to private schools.

Some rich children had their own governess at home.

Children from poor families had to go out to work to supplement the family income.

Some children worked down the mines.



Children from rich families were taught deportment and etiquette.

Fathers did not generally spend much time with their children.

It was not compulsory for children to go to school until 1870.



Some children worked in the mills.



Rich family posing for photo
Public Record Office



It was not unusual for a Victorian family to have 8 - 10 children.

Diet was limited.

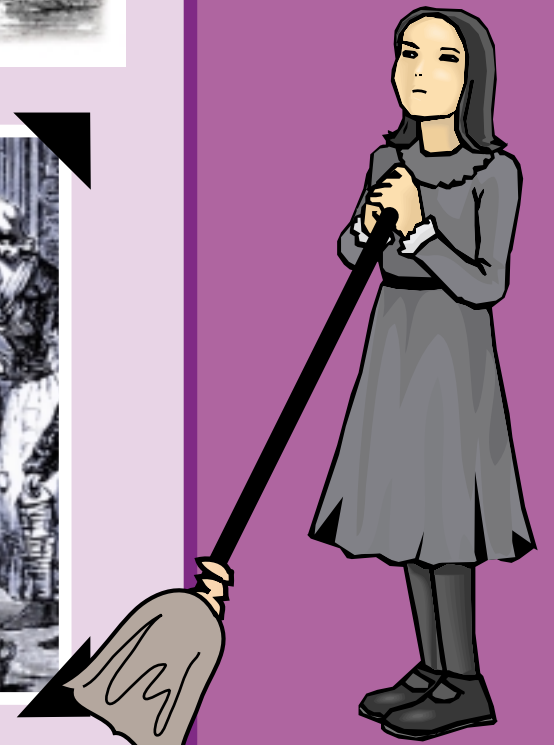
There was a lack of good sanitation.

Drugs and medicine were difficult to acquire.

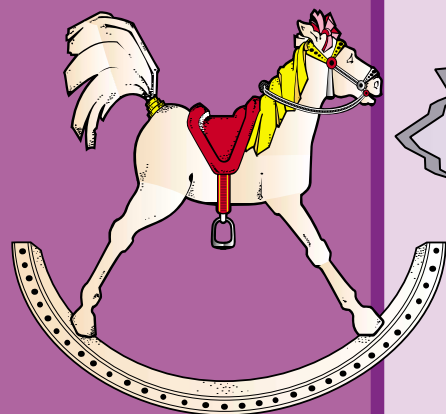
Children often died young.



Poor people lining up for water
Barnaby's photo library



Rich children had elaborate toys such as dolls' houses, train sets and rocking horses.



It was usual for rich families to employ servants to look after them.

Children were supposed to be seen but not heard!

Some children went into domestic service.

There were very few treats and no luxuries.



Children had to make their own games and toys.

Children as young as four were employed as chimney sweeps.

..... who would I rather be?