

THE PETERLOO MASSACRE

A Day of Activity



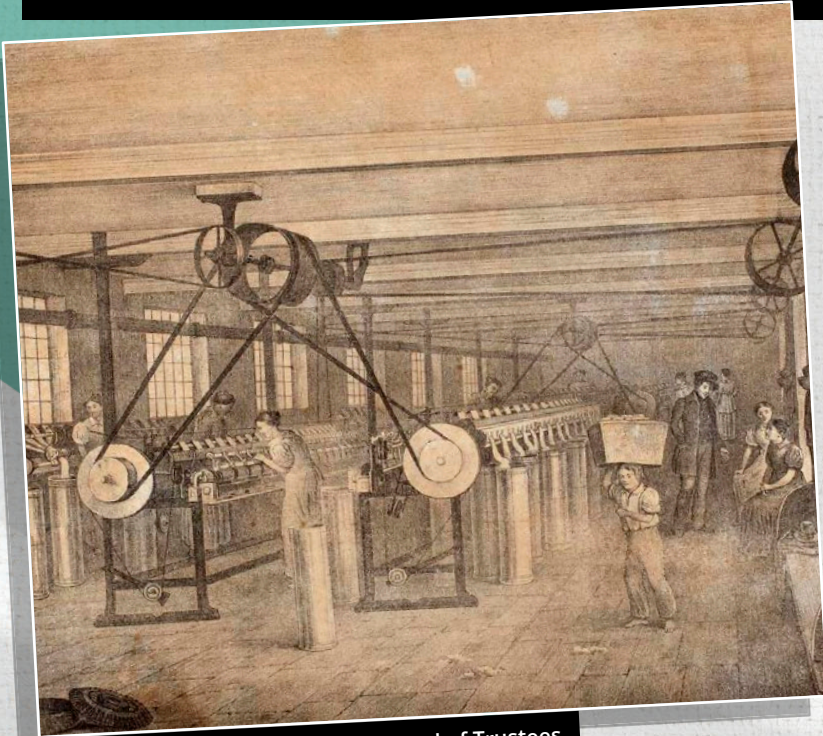
WHAT WAS LIFE LIKE IN 1819?

Lesson One

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- To know what life was like for people in Manchester in 1819
- To understand why some people in Manchester wanted change

WHAT WAS LIFE LIKE IN MANCHESTER IN 1819?



Bobbin and Drawing © The Board of Trustees of the Science Museum

A lot of people in Manchester worked in the cotton industry in 1819.

In factories most adults worked around 16 hours a day in cotton mills.

Question: How many hours per day do you think children worked for?

(Answer on next slide)

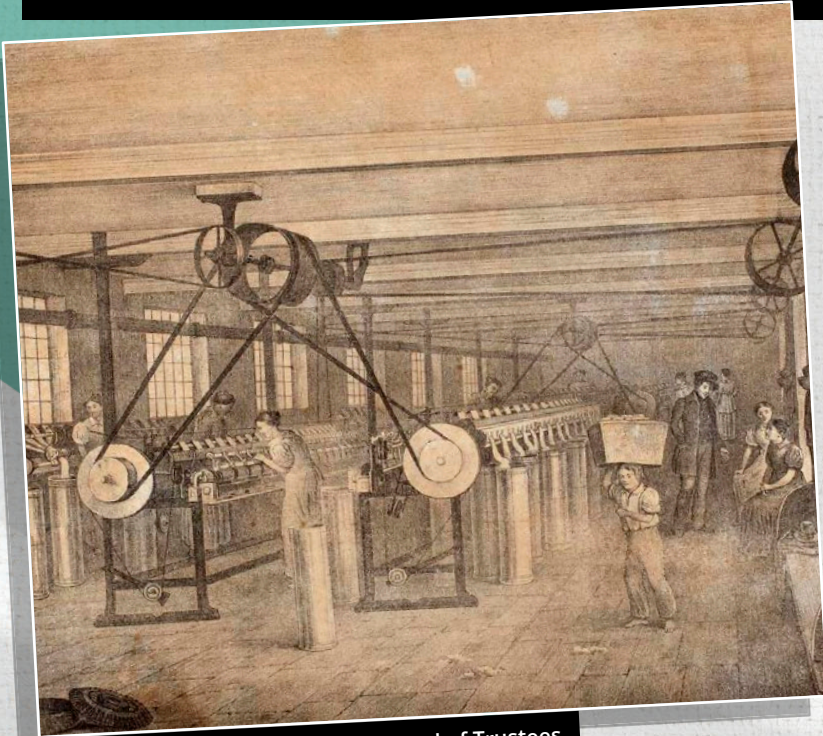
Teacher Notes:

Further video link – Industrial Revolution Factory Life

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JHSir-ibHVA>

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WHAT WAS LIFE LIKE IN MANCHESTER IN 1819?



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A lot of people in Manchester worked in the cotton industry in 1819.

In factories most adults worked around 16 hours a day in cotton mills.

Answer: Children would work for around 12 hours a day.

Teacher Notes:

Further video link – Industrial Revolution Factory Life

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IMAGINE YOU LIVED 200 YEARS AGO

How would life be different?

Discussion activity:

Split into small groups and discuss this.

- What would your bedroom be like?
- What would you do on the weekend?
- What job would your parents have?
- What would be eat for lunch?
- What would you do for fun?

Teacher Notes: Ask each small group to feedback what they think.



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WHAT WOULD YOU CHANGE?



Our Children's World Held in Our Hands banner, 1996
© People's History Museum

Think of one thing people living in Manchester 200 years ago might have wanted to change about their lives.

Activity: On the worksheet, create a colourful protest placard about this issue.

Teacher Notes: This could be used to create a classroom wall display.

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This learning programme for young people has been created by Manchester Histories and People's History Museum. The programme is supported by The National Lottery Heritage Fund, Historic England and UK Parliament Education and has been co-designed with The Politics Project.

