

Victorian Britain

The differences between
rich and poor children



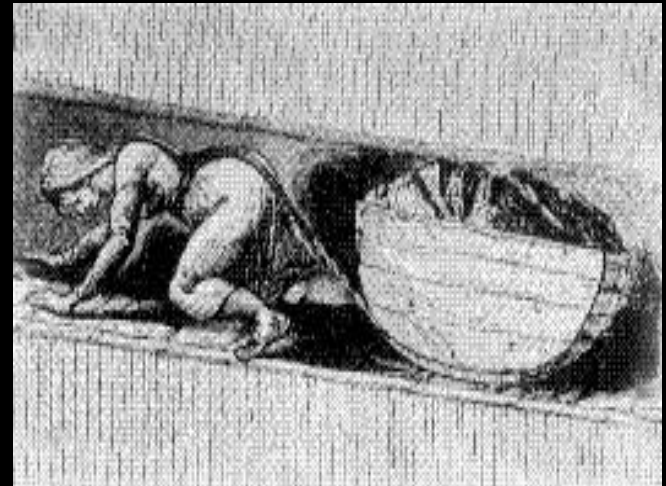
What did rich children do?

- Children were taught at home by a Tutor or a Governess.
- They were looked after by a Nanny who would wash and dress them and teach them how to behave.
- Only boys were expected to go out to work.
- The girls stayed at home with their mother and were married as soon as possible.



What did poor children do?

- They went to school and met other children.
- They were sent out to work when very young.
- They worked down coal mines for 12 hours a day.
- Boys went up chimneys to clean them.
- They worked in match factories to dip matches into a dangerous chemical called phosphorous.



Rich families

- Parents only saw their children once a day.
- Children were often frightened of their parents.
- Children were allowed downstairs for an hour before they went to bed.



Poor families

- Poor children spent time with their families.
- They loved their parents.
- Often got diseases and were very sick.
- They lived in houses with no running water or inside toilets.



How did rich children live?

- Lived in big houses.
- Had servants.
- Wore smart clothes.
- Had lots of food to eat.
- Had expensive toys.



How did poor children live?

- Wore shabby, old clothes.
- Lived in one or two rooms in small houses with lots of other people.
- Had little food to eat.
- Had to breathe in smoke from the nearby factories.



Rich or Poor?

- Were sent out to work when very young.
- Had a governess or a tutor.
- Only saw their parents for a short time each day.
- Went up chimneys to clean them.
- Went to school and met other children.
- Often got diseases and very ill.
- Had lots of clothes to wear.
- Were polite and respectful to adults.
- Learned how to play the piano and speak Latin.
- Were often very hungry.