

Teachers Notes

This lesson plan is supported by accompanying factsheets and worksheets. It is probably most suitable for Years 5 & 6

NC Reference

- 15: To read a range of explanatory texts
- 17: To locate information confidently and efficiently

Objectives

- Understanding non-fiction texts and undertake research
- Building vocabulary
- Understand the pressures and conditions on towns following Industrial Revolution
- Local area study (Victorian values and recreation)
- Preparation for maths (land prices/calculating acreage) and map work

Resources

- Access to computers (pupils could work in pairs) or enough factsheets printed out to have one between two
- Printed map of original Park layout from website
- Worksheet (print out one between two)
- Clipboards, pens, paper

Introduction

It is helpful if pupils have some understanding of the Industrial Revolution and the Victorians before this lesson although this could be a way to start topic work on the Victorians. A basic understanding of map work would also help.

Activity

Ask if anyone knows how their local park came about. Read through the factsheet together, discussing the general scene-setting info in the first paragraph. Look at the old map to enhance meaning of items in factsheet. Go to Park, with worksheets, maps and clipboards etc. and do as much as possible while out, filling in the gaps on return to school. Alternatively, if you wish to be unencumbered, take one copy of the worksheet to the Park to make sure all questions are addressed during a walkabout and complete the worksheet back at school.

Plenary

Class discussion about how the Park and leisure-time has changed in about a century and how values and attitudes are reflected in those changes.

Park Specific Notes

Victoria Park— more work could be done on the history of St Mary Redcliffe School and the extremely interesting story behind the water maze.

St Agnes Park— many opportunities for map and compass work. Find out more about Evon Berry.

Greville Smyth Park— the importance of Smyth family, Ashton Court and the old hospital.

Eastville Park— considerable and interesting political history, suffragettes, the picturesque.

All offer opportunities to look at health and Victorian ideas about health care, especially Eastville, Greville Smyth and Victoria where the three open air swimming pools were built in early 1900s.