

The Victorians

(GM Hub Song 2019)

- 1 We sing of Queen Victoria, remembering with pride
Her many years upon the throne, her name spread far and wide.
From eighteen thirty-seven she reigned until nineteen 'o' one,
This great Victorian era has affected everyone.

(With optional harmony)

What did Victorians do for us? They gave us...

(Spoken)

Pedal bikes, electric lights,
Molten steel, tyres for wheels,
Railway trains, sewage drains
And the flushing loo! PHEW!

- 2 We sing of all Victorians whose vision changed our land,
With schools for all and smart police and great industrial plans,
The engineers and scientists who shared their expertise
And travelled with the traders bringing goods from overseas.

BRIDGE

(With optional harmony)

Kenya, Malta and on and on,
Fiji, Canada, the list is long,
People travelled the oceans blue,
From India, Australia, Jamaica too.

INSTRUMENTAL for WOPPS

(With optional harmony)

What did Victorians do for us? They gave us...

(Spoken)

Motor cars, chocolate bars,
Plumbed-in baths, photographs,
Postage stamps, cures for cramps,
Anaesthetic too! PHEW!

- 3 Victorians were inventive, making gadgets for the home,
Imagine the excitement when they made a telephone!
Machinery for factories had gears and belts and things
With complicated levers working cylinders and springs.

GROUP 1 Biff, bash, clickety clack.

GROUP 2 Pull the lever, push it back.

GROUP 3 Swish, swash, ping the spring.

ALL We'll manufacture anything!

GROUP 1

Biff, bash, clickety clack.
 Biff, bash, clickety clack.
 Biff, bash, clickety clack.
 Biff, bash, clickety clack.

GROUP 2

Pull the lever, push it back.
 Pull the lever, push it back.
 Pull the lever, push it back.
 Pull the lever, push it back.

GROUP 3

Swish, swash, ping the spring.
 Swish, swash, ping the spring.
 Swish, swash, ping the spring.
 Swish, swash, ping the spring.

Body percussion for each group is below (see music score for correct rhythm). Body percussion could be used instead of singing the above lyrics, or could be used as you sing them:

GROUP 1

*Slap right thigh on 'biff',
 Slap left thigh on 'bash',
 Click fingers right on 'clickety'
 Click fingers left on 'clack'*

GROUP 2

*Right stamp on 'Pull'
 Right arm pull-back on 'lever'
 Left stamp on 'push'
 Right arm push-back on 'back'*

GROUP 3

Rub palms together quickly three times (triplets) on 'swish,' 'swash' and 'ping the', then one palm-rub on 'spring'

(With optional harmony)

What did Victorians do for us? They gave us...

(Spoken)

Fish and chips, iron ships,
 Power of steam, sewing machines,
 Christmas trees, cures for fleas,
 Antiseptics too! PHEW!

4 Today it's Queen Elizabeth who sits upon the throne,
 Her Commonwealth of Nations to 53 has grown.
 We sing in Greater Manchester with multicultural pride,
 We're sharing life together and we're standing side by side.

5 R.E.S.P.E.C.T.
 We've learnt that from history,
 Celebrate each faith and race,
 Put a smile on every face.

6 *Sing verses 4 and 5 together*

ALL

We're sharing life together and we're standing side by side.