

Is Rawmarsh built on Black Diamonds?

This half term Class 5 will be looking at our local area and investigating what turned Rawmarsh from a small farming community into a large town. Through historical enquiry we will research the developments in the coal industry that have led to the growth of Rawmarsh as a village.

Coal

Coal is a mineral and a fossil fuel.

It can be found under the ground all over the world.

Coal can be found in parts of the UK and in our local area.

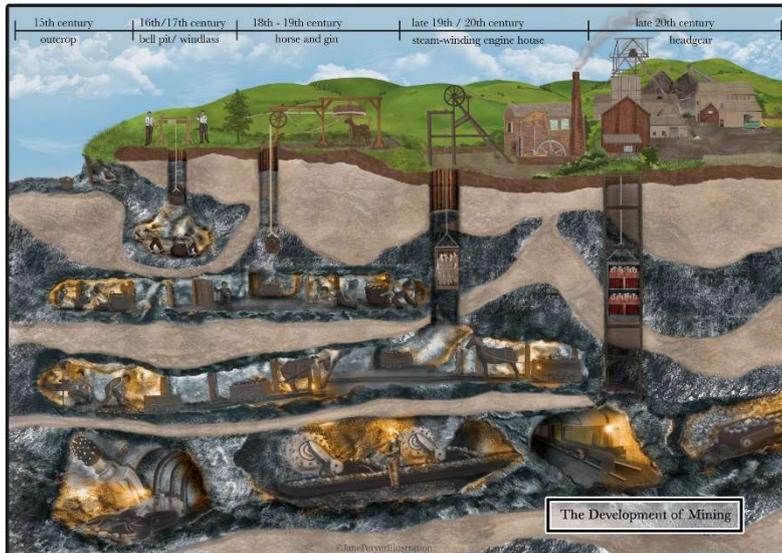
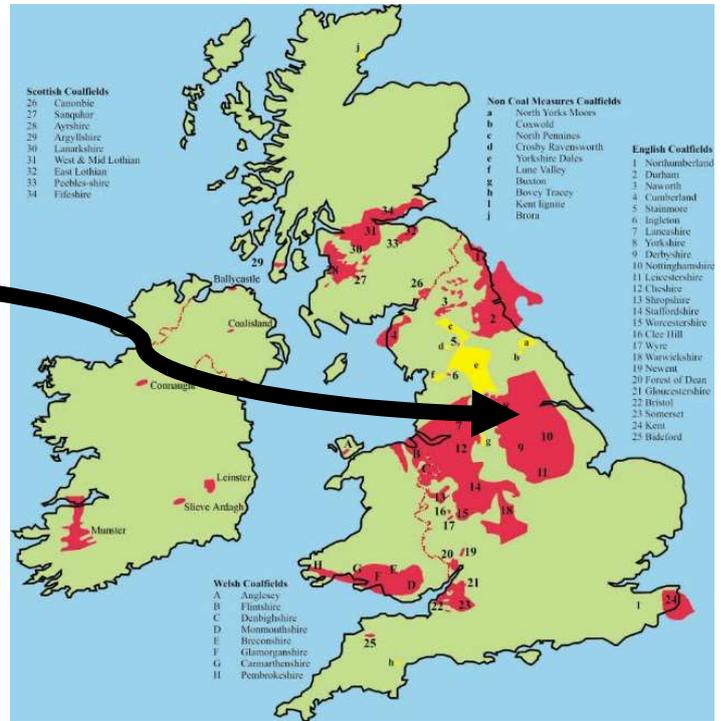
Our local area is rich with coal.

Coal has been an important part of our imports and exports for hundreds of years.

Coal is a non-renewable energy source.

Coal was a very important fuel in Victorian times; it heated people's houses, schools and workplaces.

It powered steam engines in trains, ships and factories. This is called the industrial revolution.



Coal Mining

Coal has been mined since Roman times.

A coal mine is known as a colliery.

A mine employed lots of people doing many different jobs. It was also a community.

It was not just a job, it was a way of life.

The mining of coal was and is still dangerous.

Many disasters and accidents occurred frequently.

As technology and machinery advanced, mining became more efficient and deeper underground.

Vocabulary

Coal fossil fuel non-renewable pit mine poverty colliery riot industry strike protest import mechanical export manual geology disaster labour community union Seam shaft Industrial Revolution

End to mining in the UK

Miners belonged to a trade union which made sure that the people in charge of the mine took their safety seriously and paid them properly.

The British coal mining industry went into decline in the 1950s because coal imports were cheaper and cleaner fuels were being used such as gas and oil.

In the 1980s, the government decided to close the mines and the miners went on strike for a year to try to stop the closures.

The last deep mine in the UK closed in 2015.