

**Stroud's String of Pearls:** How did the wool industry affect life in Stroud?

## History

### Knowledge organiser

**Teaching focus:** A Local History Study  
**Learning Lens:** Impact on life in Britain  
**Class:** Year 3

### Previous Knowledge

The lives of children were different during the reign of Queen Victoria. Stroud is a town close to King's Stanley. King's Stanley has changed over time.

### Project Hook or 'Wow' memory

Art project of making 'Pearls'. Use half a paper mache balloon and stick inside a picture of one of the mills in Stroud. Also visit Dunkirk Mill by walking along the cycle path.

### Learning Steps

### Key Knowledge (answers)

**What are Stroud's 'String of Pearls'?**

The 'String of Pearls' is the collective name for fine line of woollen mills that were situated next to water in Stroud. At the height of the woollen industry there were at least 170 working mills along the valley bottom in the late 18th Century.

**Who are Capel Cochineal and Stanley Sheep?**

Capel Cochineal originated in South America on prickly pear plants ( cacti) It provides the red dye for the cloth that made Stroud famous. Stanley Sheep lived on the hills of Stroud and the surrounding Cotswold escarpment. The sheep provide the wool for the cloth.

**What is the process that the wool went through?**

The cloth is cleaned by the fuller ( stamping on it for hour in wee) before the fulling stocks were introduced. The cloth was dyed using natural dyes (Cochineal bugs). The wool was sorted and graded, combed, carded and spun. It was then woven into cloth.

**What jobs did people do in the mills?**

There was a plethora of jobs: The top job was the clothier or mill owner . Others were; sorters, scourers, beaters and pickers, engine man, feeders, roller joiners, spinners, piercers, warpers, weavers, millmen, burlers, rowers dyers, cutters, brushers, markers, pressers and packers.

**What was the role of the canals?**

The canals provided the Stroud Valleys with fuel and raw materials. The Stroud Water Canal was built in 1779 and the Thames and Severn Canal in 1789. They helped the world to be connected with Stroud's industries and vice versa.

**What was the impact of the railways?**

Stroud's cloth makers were enthusiastic supporters of train travel. They knew they could get cloth to London much easier by rail so invited Isambard Kingdom Brunel down to Stroud to persuade him. A public meeting was held in the Subscription Rooms in 1834. Stroud got its railway in 1845. Queen Victoria passed through Stroud in 1849.

### The key skills we want pupils to use during this topic:

Chronology—Use timelines to place events in order. Use words like century and decade.

Knowledge and Understanding—Use dates and vocabulary accurately to describe the differences between the rich and poor, plus how life has changed during the period and the impact on life today.

Historical contexts—Use a range of source material collate information about the past.

Identify the difference between fact and opinion.

### Key vocabulary

**Capel Cochineal**

Carpel Cochineal are soft-bodied, flat, oval-shaped scale insects that provide the red dye.

**Canal**

Waterways that are built by people.

**Census**

An official survey of the population of a place.

**Century**

A period of 100 years used to describe time.

**Fuller**

A process that is used to clean the wool.

**Industrial Revolution**

Machines that take the place of people and animals in the 18th and 19th Centuries.

**Mill**

A factory used for making and processing materials

### Final Written Outcome

A chronological report identifying how the woollen industry has affected Stroud. Picking out the dates, what happened and the affects.

**Alternative Outcome:** A table that includes 3 dates, 3 events and 3 affects.

