

Local History

Historic England and Teacher's Pet have come together to bring you a collection of free resources that you can use in your local history teaching.



Historic England



Teacher's Pet

Who are Teacher's Pet?

Teacher's Pet have been providing downloadable and playable educational content to early years and primary school teachers for over 14 years. We cover all areas of the curriculum and use a team of in-house teachers and designers to create engaging and memorable concepts, that the children will love.

Why local history?

At [Teacher's Pet](#) we want to empower primary school teachers by giving them the tools they need to deliver inspiring and thoughtful lessons about the local area and its history. We believe local history teaching has such an important part to play in a child's wellbeing – helping to give children a sense of pride in where they live.

Our Local History project is designed to provide teachers across the UK with everything they need to successfully carry out a full scheme of teaching about their local area, through key enquiry questions and source led activities.

Working with [Historic England](#) gives us access to archived maps and photos for resources and information from knowledgeable local historians, as well helping us to provide the content to you free of charge.

For more information about our Local History project or to find out more about Teacher's Pet Classroom Resources, please visit our website.



How did the industrial revolution change Luton?



Hat Industry

research project by



Teacher's Pet



Historic England



How did the industrial revolution change Luton?

Location Luton

Draw a line to label Luton on the map.



Roughly, when did the hat industry begin in Luton?

☐ 1600s

☐ 1700s

☐ 1800s

☐ 1900s

The first boost happened to the hat industry in Luton during the Napoleonic wars, when supplies of straw plait from Italy became too expensive to import into the country. In need of supplies, Bedfordshire (known as the grainers grounds) had potential and people quickly turned to the workers in small towns such as Luton to start producing their own straw plait. A second boost came during the industrial revolution, which allowed machinery and humans to work side by side, producing hats faster and cheaper.

Census Population

1841	5,827
1851	10,648
1861	15,329
1871	17,317
1881	23,960
1891	30,053
1901	36,404

Growing Population

What does the census data tell us about the growth of Luton during the late Industrial Revolution?

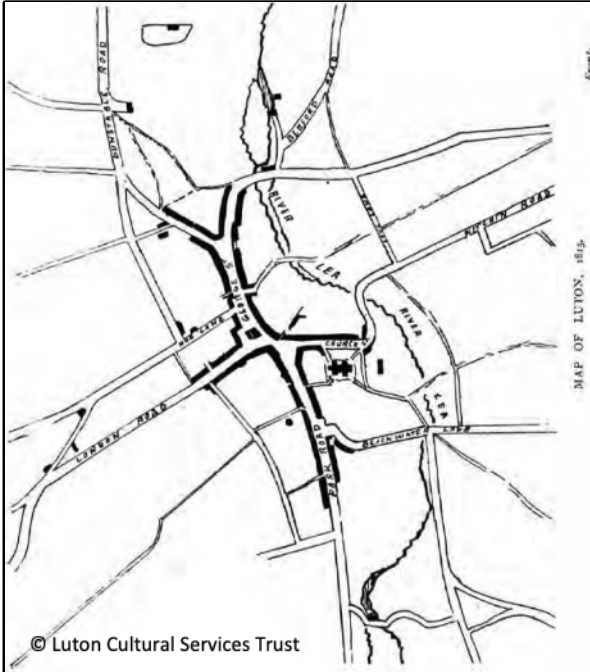




How did the industrial revolution change Luton?

Map Work

Can you identify the 'Roman Y' which is referred to in the reference?



"A long, dirty town of one street, meanly built, and forming off, like a Roman Y, the Market Place and then again to the Church north, and by a pond south to Lord Bute's house."

Robert Gough
Early 18th Century Description of
Luton.

► Luton 1815



► Luton 1929



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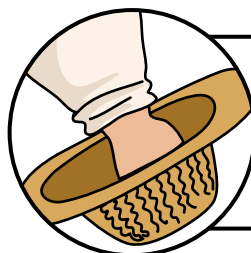
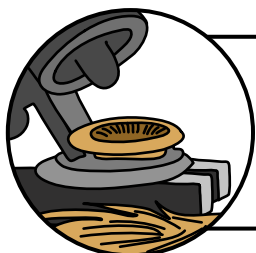
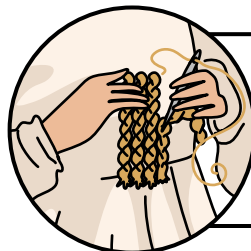
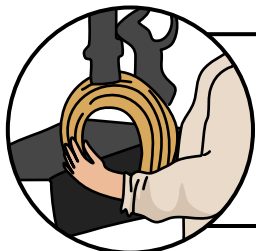
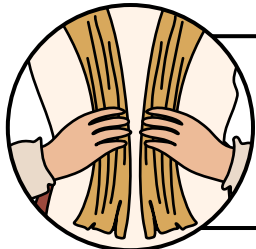
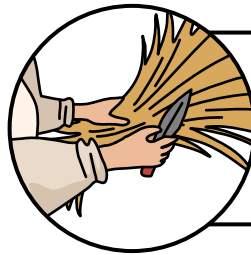


How did the industrial revolution change Luton?

Step into to the past

The hat industry was hard work. Many staff gained life long issues caused from the repetitive action of plaiting straw on a daily basis. It required great skill to turn straw into the finished product and many would go to specialist plaiting schools to learn the technique.

Write the correct descriptions for each area of work within the Hat industry during the 1800s.



I spend my morning cutting the straw.

My job is to plait the straw.

I sort the straw by quality ready to bleach.

I join the plaits by machine ready to be sewn.

I press the hats by hand.

I sew the plait into hats by hand.

I use a machine that presses the hats.

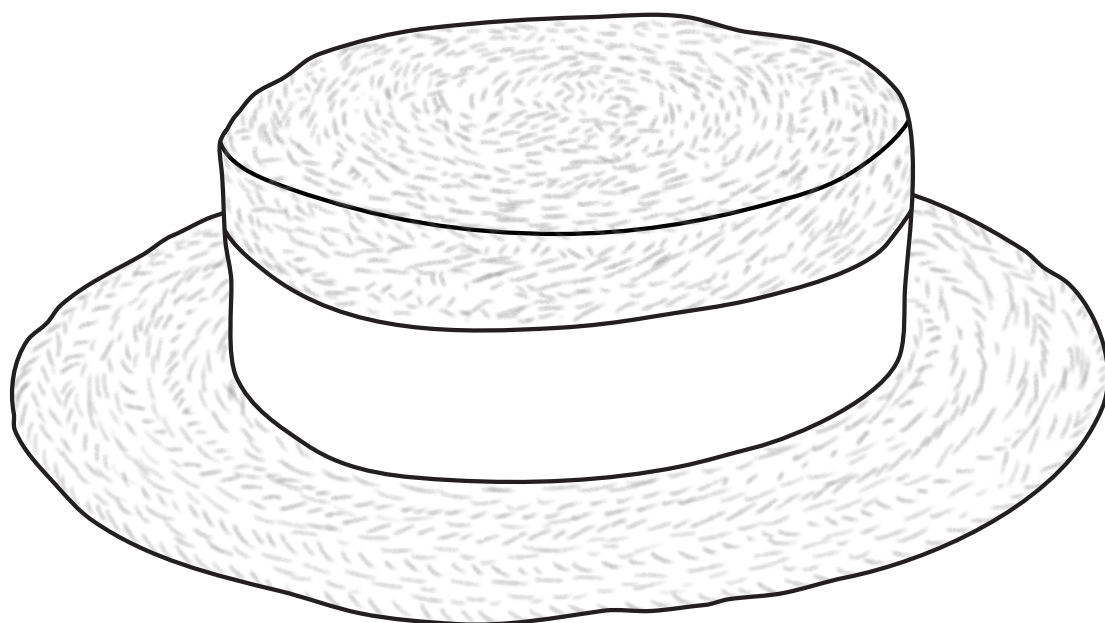




How did the industrial revolution change Luton?

At its peak, there were over 500 hat manufactories in Luton.

A big part in the success of the trade came from the sales to larger cities such as London. Design a poster advertising your own hat business.





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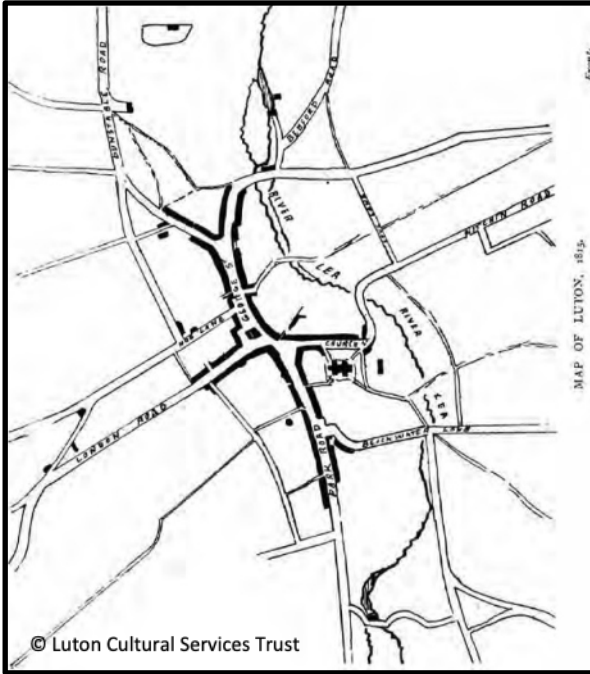




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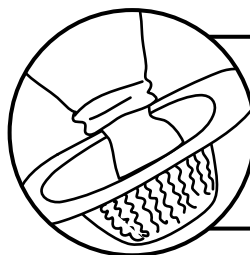
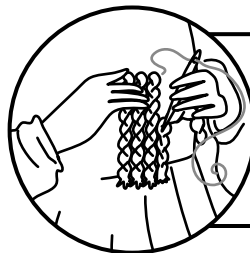
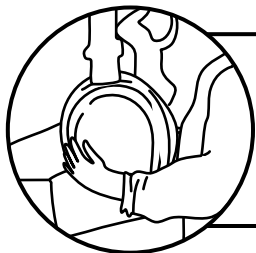
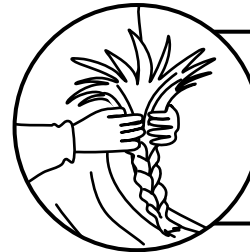
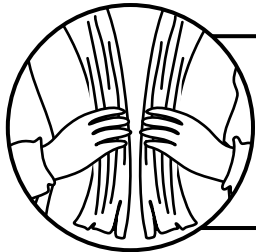
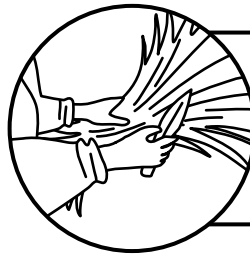


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Luton



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