

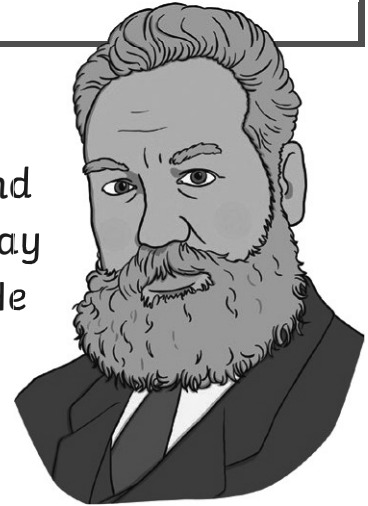
Victorian Inventors



The Victorian age was an amazing time for inventors and inventions. Many Victorian inventions are things we still use today, like phones and light bulbs.

Alexander Bell

Alexander was a Scottish scientist, engineer and inventor. He spent years trying to invent a way of sending the human voice through wires. He began working with the electrician Thomas Watson and together they made the first ever telephone call. Soon, thousands of people had a telephone in their homes!



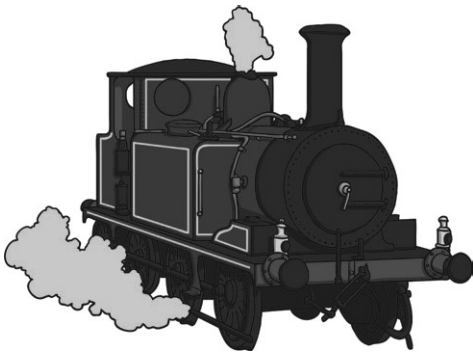
Hertha Ayrton

Hertha was an engineer, mathematician and inventor. Lots of Victorians thought women couldn't do these jobs but Hertha showed that they were wrong!

Victorian streetlights were lit using noisy electric arcs. Hertha invented a new arc that made lights quieter and brighter. She went on to come up with 26 new inventions.

Isambard Brunel

Isambard was a famous engineer and inventor who changed the way that Victorians travelled. Isambard built the Great Western Railway, making it easier to travel from London to the rest of the country. He built the world's largest steamship called the SS Great Eastern. He also built many tunnels and bridges that are still used today.





Did You Know...?

- In the first ever phone call, Alexander said “Mr Watson, come here. I want to see you!”
- Hertha also fought for the law to be changed so women could vote.
- Isambard’s ship, the SS Great Eastern, was 210 metres long.

Questions

1. Who did Alexander Graham Bell work with? Tick one.

- Hertha Ayrton
 Isambard Brunel
 Thomas Watson

2. Number these facts in the order you find them out in the text. The first one has been done for you.

- Alexander Graham Bell invented the telephone.
 The world's largest steamship was called the 'SS Great Eastern'.
 1 The Victorian age was an amazing time for inventors.
 Hertha Ayrton invented a new electric arc.

3. Draw lines to match these sentences about each inventor.

Hertha Ayrton

He changed the way Victorians travelled.

Alexander Bell

Thousands of people had his invention in their home.

Isambard Brunel

Not everyone thought she could do her job.

4. Find and copy what was said in the first ever phone call.

5. What else did Hertha Ayrton do that was important?
