

Children at Work Quiz

This can't be true, can it? What do you think?

1. From the 17th century (1600's) onwards, working families needed to send their children out to work so that they could make ends meet and support themselves. **True False**
2. In some towns and cities, like Halifax in West Yorkshire, most children over four years old were out working. **True False**
3. Some factories employed children as young as two to do some of the more simple work. **True False**
4. Many children worked the same long hours as adults in the workplace, up to sixteen hours a day. **True False**
5. There had been Acts of Parliament to regulate children's working hours, keeping them down to 12 hours a day, but these Acts were not very effective. **True False**
6. In the 1830's, people interested in improving working people's lives (social reformers) began to demand a reduction in hours to a ten hour day for working children in factories and cotton mills. **True False**
7. A lot of accidents happened in the factories because the children and young people were very careless. **True False**
8. Children working in the textile mills used to get very tired and could not keep up the speed of work that their bosses wanted. So, to make them work faster, they were hit with a strap. **True False**
9. When young workers showed signs of getting tired - like yawning, they were dipped head first into cold water. **True False**
10. Children were not only punished for being late for work, but also for talking to other children. **True False**
11. Young workers who ran away from the factory could be sent to prison, and those most likely to run away were put in leg irons. **True False**
12. In some factories, children and young people under eighteen made up the entire workforce. **True False**

13. Children living in mining areas could be working down the iron or coal mines from the age of five. Few of them lived even to the age of 25. If accidents didn't get them, illness did. **True False**

14. Some young people's limbs became so distorted that their blood couldn't circulate properly. This resulted in the drying up of the marrow in their bones which would then decay leaving the young person crippled for life. **True False**

15. The jobs that young people were asked to do in the factories and mills were not particularly dangerous and it was easier work than was done by the adult workers. **True False**