



Where do we live?

Our continent is **Europe**.
 Our Country is **England**.
 Our area is the **West Midlands**
 Our City is **Wolverhampton**
 Our town is **Bilston**.

Why are Bilston and the Black Country important?

Bilston is part of a wider area called the ‘Black Country’. The Black Country got its name because of the coal and lock making industry. A lot of factories were built and they needed coal to run the machines.
 There were lots and lots of coal mines around this area and we used coal to fire up the machines in the factories.
 The Black Country was known to be ‘*black by day and red by night*’. This is because the flames and smoke from burning the coal turned the sky red and black.

Coal mining is getting **coal** from the ground:

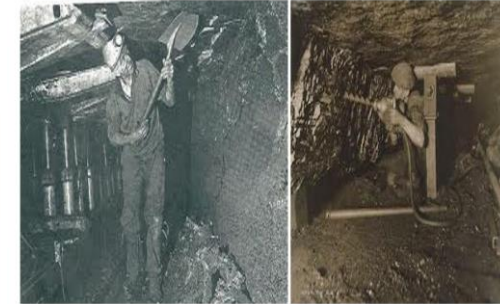


Key Knowledge

A coal mine and its structure is called a **colliery**:



Coal mining underground long time ago:



Key Vocabulary




Coal	A material found underground. Very good for burning fires.
Coal mine	Underground tunnel where Coal was found.
Factory	A large building where things are made.
Local Area	Where we live.
Industry	Lots of factories working to produce lots of things.



What was it like in the mines?

Men typically worked in the mines along with small children. Small children were used in the mines as they were small enough to squeeze into tight spaces. Mines were very dangerous as there was very little light, lots of fumes and the smoky air would make it difficult to breath. Sometimes there would be leaking gas in the mines which was very dangerous as it could cause big explosions.

There were lots of different jobs in the mines. The jobs were; trappers, hurriers and getters. They didn't get paid very much for their hard work, sometimes they would work for up to 15 hours a day!

Job	Role
<p>Trapper</p> 	<p>Open and close the trap doors to allow the mining carts to pass through.</p>
<p>Hurrier</p> 	<p>Transport the carts of coal up through the tunnels.</p>
<p>Getter</p> 	<p>Using tools to cut the coal away from the coal face or wall!</p>