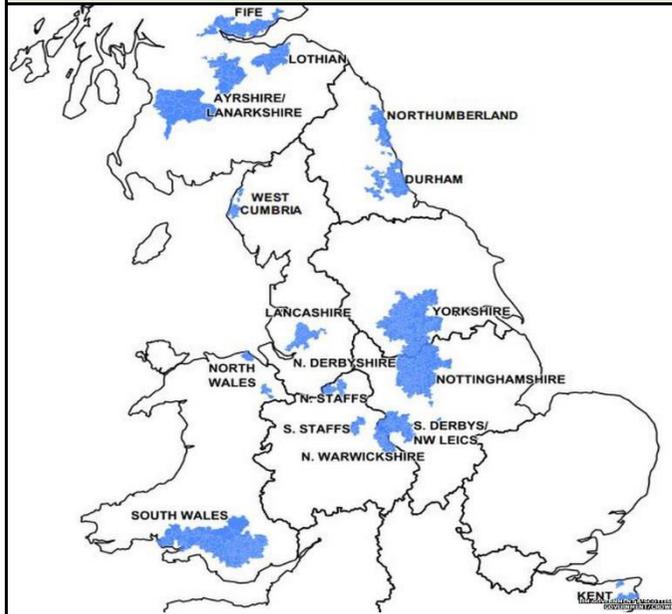


Coal Mines Map



At its height, the mining industry employed more than a million people but the closure of North Yorkshire's Kellingley Colliery in 2015 brought an end to deep coal mining in the UK.

What should I already know?

- Know that coal is a black rock that formed from decayed plants that were trapped underground millions of years ago
- Know that coal is a fossil fuel, a material that is made up of dead plants or animals from a long time ago that can be turned into energy
- Know that we don't have much coal left because we have used most of this resource
- The coal we have in the ground today started forming even before dinosaurs were on Earth.
- Scientists know that coal used to be a living plant because it contains a lot of carbon, which is found in all living things

The History of Coal Mines

Origin of mining

Small-scale mining of surface deposits dates back thousands of years including the Roman Britain era.

The Romans had already discovered most of the major coalfields and were extracting from them.

Industrial Revolution

The industrial revolution started in Britain in the 18th century as factories and manufacturing products became highly sought after.

Coal was essential for this change as it was required to feed the steam engines and steamships.

19th and 20th Century

Coal mines in this period were cramped, poorly ventilated and very dangerous

Health and safety in coal mines at this time was not that important and many people were injured or killed by explosions, roof falls, or being run over by carts (a lot of these young children).

Children played an important role of the tasks underground such as door keepers, drammers, and colliers' helpers.

Vocabulary	
Assigned	to give someone a job to do
Campaigned	a planned series of actions to achieve a set goal.
Commissioners	people given an official task (like a government report).
Coal Face	the part of the seam currently being worked
Ventilation	system of getting fresh air into the mine and removing stale air.
Motty	iron tags that colliers would tie on to the tubs of coal that they had mined. This would let mine managers know how much coal each of their miners had mined
Shaft	vertical tunnel which leads from the surface to the underground roadways.
Furnace	a coal fire at the bottom of the shaft which would help with ventilation. The hot air created by the fire rose and up the shaft and drew cold fresh air in through another shaft
Decline	(typically of something regarded as good) become smaller, fewer, or less; decrease
Unemployment	the number or proportion of unemployed people.
Communities	the condition of sharing or having certain attitudes and interests in common.
Environmental impact	An environmental impact is an impact that an activity has on the environment through the emissions or use of resources that it causes.
Uncompetitive	Unable to compete. Nothing or very little to compete against

