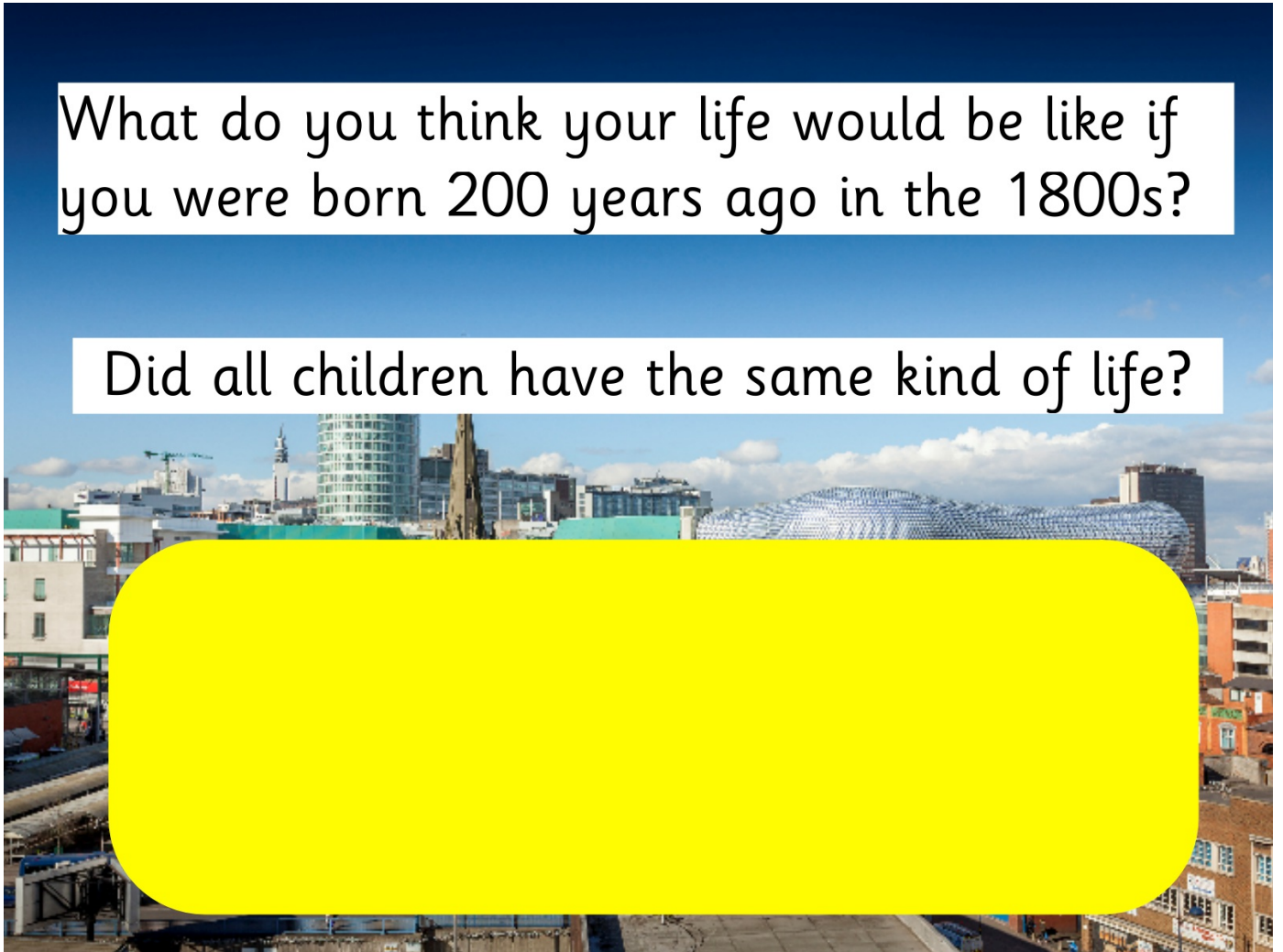


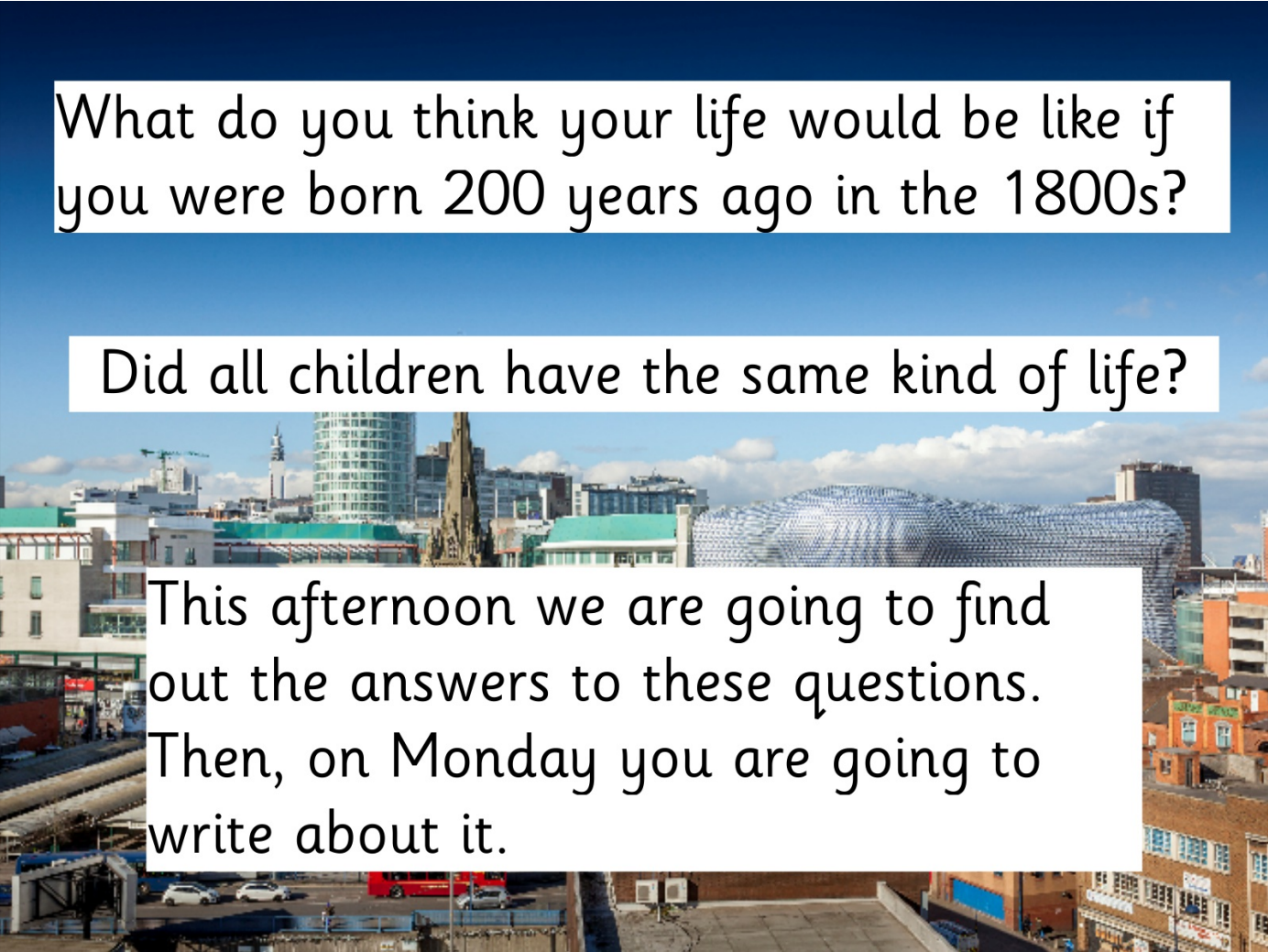
An aerial photograph of Birmingham, Alabama, showing a mix of modern high-rise buildings and older brick structures. The sky is filled with dramatic, dark clouds, with a bright sunset or sunrise glow on the horizon. A white rectangular box with a blue border is centered over the image, containing the text 'Friday Victorian Birmingham'.

Friday Victorian Birmingham

What do you think your life would be like if you were born 200 years ago in the 1800s?

Did all children have the same kind of life?

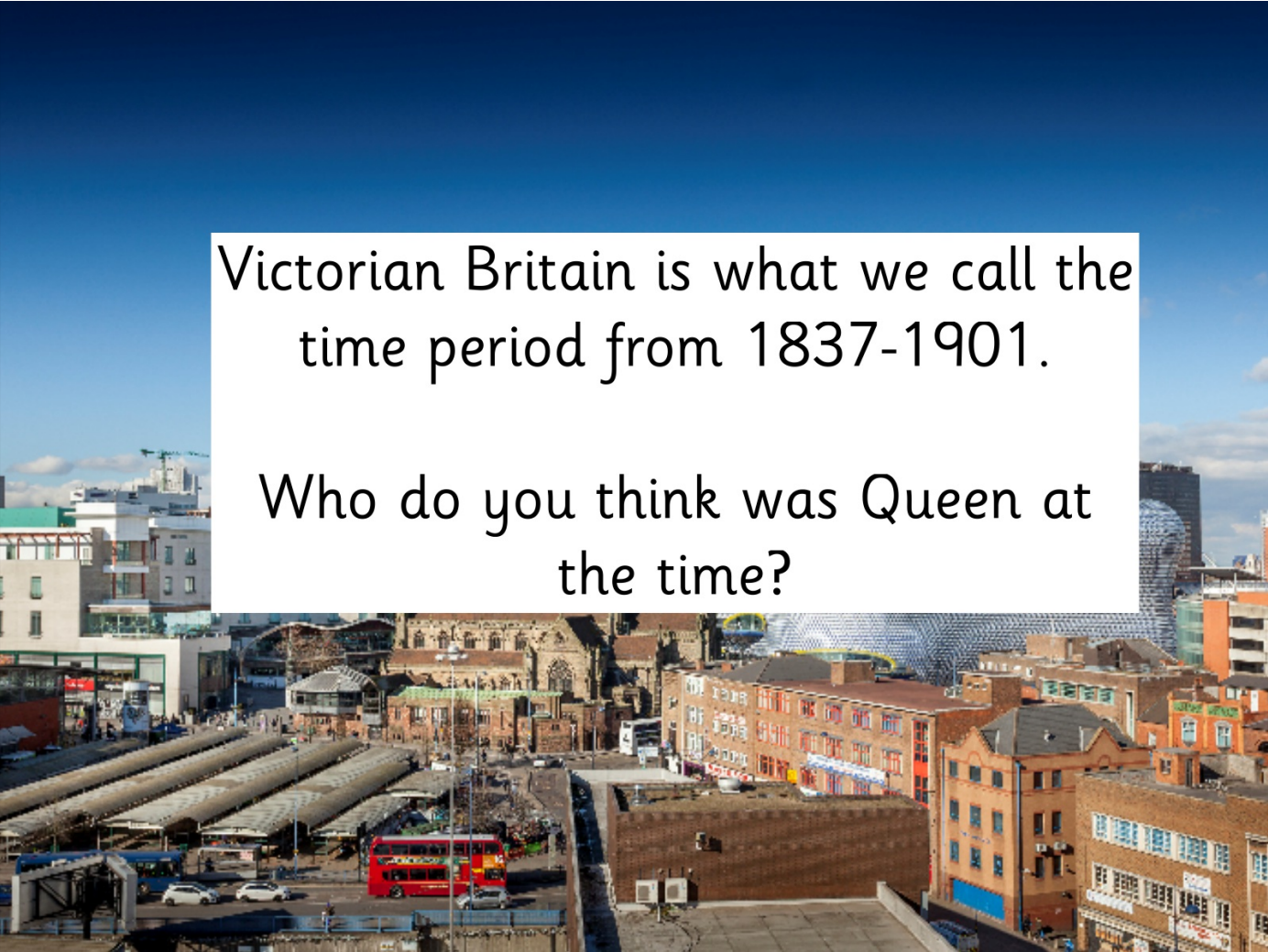




What do you think your life would be like if you were born 200 years ago in the 1800s?

Did all children have the same kind of life?

This afternoon we are going to find out the answers to these questions. Then, on Monday you are going to write about it.

An aerial photograph of a city street, likely in London, showing a red double-decker bus, a white car, and various buildings. The background features a large, modern, curved building with a glass facade. The sky is blue with some clouds.

Victorian Britain is what we call the
time period from 1837-1901.

Who do you think was Queen at
the time?

Victoria was queen!
She became queen very young -
she was only 18 years old.



Back when she was 13 and still a princess, she
visited Birmingham.

In her diary at the time, she wrote about her trip
and what she thought of the city.

What do you think she wrote about
1850 Birmingham?

"The men, women, children, country and houses are all black. But I can not by any description give an idea of its strange and extraordinary appearance. The country is very **desolate** every where; there are coals about, and the grass is quite blasted and black. I just now see an extraordinary building flaming with fire. The country continues black, engines flaming, coals, in abundance, everywhere, smoke and burning coal heaps, intermingled with wretched huts and carts and little ragged children."



desolate = bleak emptiness

An aerial photograph of Birmingham, UK, showing a mix of modern and historic architecture. In the foreground, there's a red double-decker bus and a covered walkway. In the background, the modern glass skyscraper, the Council Tower, and the historic brick buildings of the city center are visible under a clear blue sky. Two white text boxes are overlaid on the image, containing questions about Queen Victoria's diary.

Do you think Queen Victoria liked Birmingham?

What does her diary tell us about what Birmingham was like at the time?

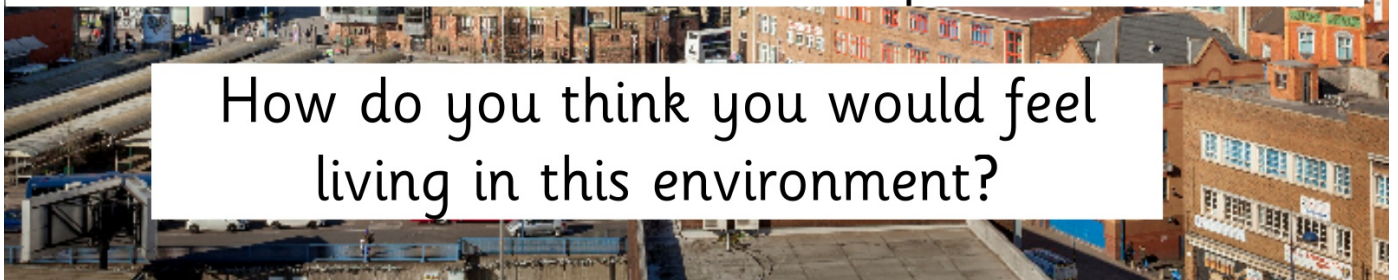
The blackness would have come from the soot from factories. Birmingham was a very industrial area.



The Racecourse Colliery at the Black Country Museum. This mine is very similar to the other 499-599 small-pit coal mines/colliers previously in operation in the Black Country.

The Black Country is a name still used today for an area close to Birmingham. It includes Dudley, Sandwell, Walsall and Wolverhampton.

How do you think you would feel living in this environment?



Life was very hard for lots of children living in Victorian Birmingham.

You are going to be finding out some facts about how people's lives were different to ours and what made them so difficult.



You are going to fill in a sheet that looks like this.

<u>Behaviour</u>	<u>Disease</u>	<u>Homes</u>
<u>School</u>	<u>Work</u>	<u>Anything else?</u>

By the end of the lesson you will have filled in these boxes with lots of facts about living in Victorian Birmingham.

Your task is to research Victorian Birmingham online.

The subjects are:
school, work, home, disease and behaviour.

As you find information, add bullet points to the sheet.

<u>Behaviour</u>	<u>Disease</u>	<u>Homes</u>
<u>School</u>	<u>Work</u>	<u>Anything else?</u>

You can print the sheet from the Virtual School page OR simply write the facts on paper.

Below are some facts you might have found

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Behaviour</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Follow rules with questioning. ● Harsh punishments. ● Children were sent to adult prisons for committing minor crimes. 	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Disease</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Death came early. ● Lack of medicine. ● Children slept on the streets - exposed to diseases. ● Outdoor toilets would be shared with dozens of neighbours. 	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Homes</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Homes too small, cold. Infested with lice and vermin. ● Water would be collected from a dirty pump.
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>School</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Cold classrooms. ● Only for wealthy families. ● Children hit by teachers for a mistake. ● Boys and girls taught different skills. 	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Work</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 12 hour shift in dirty conditions. ● Wages are extremely low. ● Children had to work at coal mines. ● Servants employed to help run the house. 	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Anything else?</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The only place for children to play was in the streets without expensive toys.

Oliver Twist is a film about a 9 year old boy living in the 1800s. Oliver is an orphan and is sent to the workhouse.

Although the film is set in London not Birmingham, the conditions would have been very similar, as workhouses existed in Birmingham too, such as this one that was next to what is now the children's hospital.



If you can, find somebody else in your home to play a game of hot seating with.

They are going to ask you questions about your life whilst you pretend to be a child from Victorian Britain.

Use your notes to answer the questions.

