



Key Vocabulary

Word	Meaning
Past	Something that has already happened
Present	Something that is happening now
Punch and Judy	A puppet show by the seaside
Beach hut	A small wooden hut that is usually found close to the beach. They are used to shelter from the sun or wind and can be used to get changed in.
Entertainment	An activity that provides enjoyment
Steam train	A train that is powered by a steam engine.
Promenade	A gentle walk especially in a public place for pleasure or display. It can also mean a footpath near the sand
A hokeypokey	What an ice cream was called in the past. It was usually eaten out of paper.
Bathing machine	A hut used to change clothes and wheeled directly to the sea.
Victorian	When Queen Victoria ruled (from 1837-1901).

Queen Victoria

- Seaside holidays became popular in the **Victorian** times. The Victorians lived over 150 years ago during the reign of Queen Victoria (1837 to 1901).
- During the reign of **Queen Victoria** the Bank Holiday Bill was drafted and when it became law the first official bank holidays were created.



History of Southend Pier

- Between 1822 – 1823 The Lord Mayor, **Sir William Heygate** led the campaign for the pier to be constructed. The reason for this was to attract more visitors to Southend and to allow steamships travelling along the River Thames to dock in Southend.
- In 1830 the first 600-foot wooden pier was opened. Southend Pier is now the longest Pier in the world measuring 1.33 miles long.
- The pier has been damaged by fire 3 times since it was first built.
- In 2002 the RNLI Lifeboat station and gift shop officially opened.



How did people get to the seaside?

- Before trains were invented it was very hard for people to reach the seaside for holidays so seaside towns were mainly for fishing.
- The invention of the railway had a big impact on people's lives. People who had never had holidays before, started travelling to the seaside on the **steam train**. These trains were powered by coal. The seaside then became a very busy and popular place.



Visiting the seaside in the past

- People used to wear their best clothes to the seaside. They also used to cover themselves.
- Women were not allowed to be seen in their swimming costumes. If they wanted to swim they had to get changed in a **bathing machine** and it was then pushed into the sea.
- Buckets and spades would have been very heavy to carry because they were made from metal, tin and wood.
- Donkey rides, entertainment and carousels at the seaside are still popular today.

Grace Darling

- **Grace Darling** became a national heroine after risking her life to save the stranded survivors of the wrecked **steamship** SS Forfarshire in 1838.
- She and her father helped rescue nine survivors.
- Grace Darling's mother helped nurse the survivors back to health.
- She received an award for her bravery from Queen Victoria.
- Grace Darling died on the 20th October 1842 from an illness called tuberculosis.



Extending your learning:

1. Visit your local library and read some fiction books about the seaside.
2. Research the history of a seaside that you have visited.
3. Ask an adult in your family about their seaside experiences as a child. How does it differ to your experiences?
4. Visit the Grace Darling Museum in Bamburgh, but sadly, it is over 300 miles from Pinner!