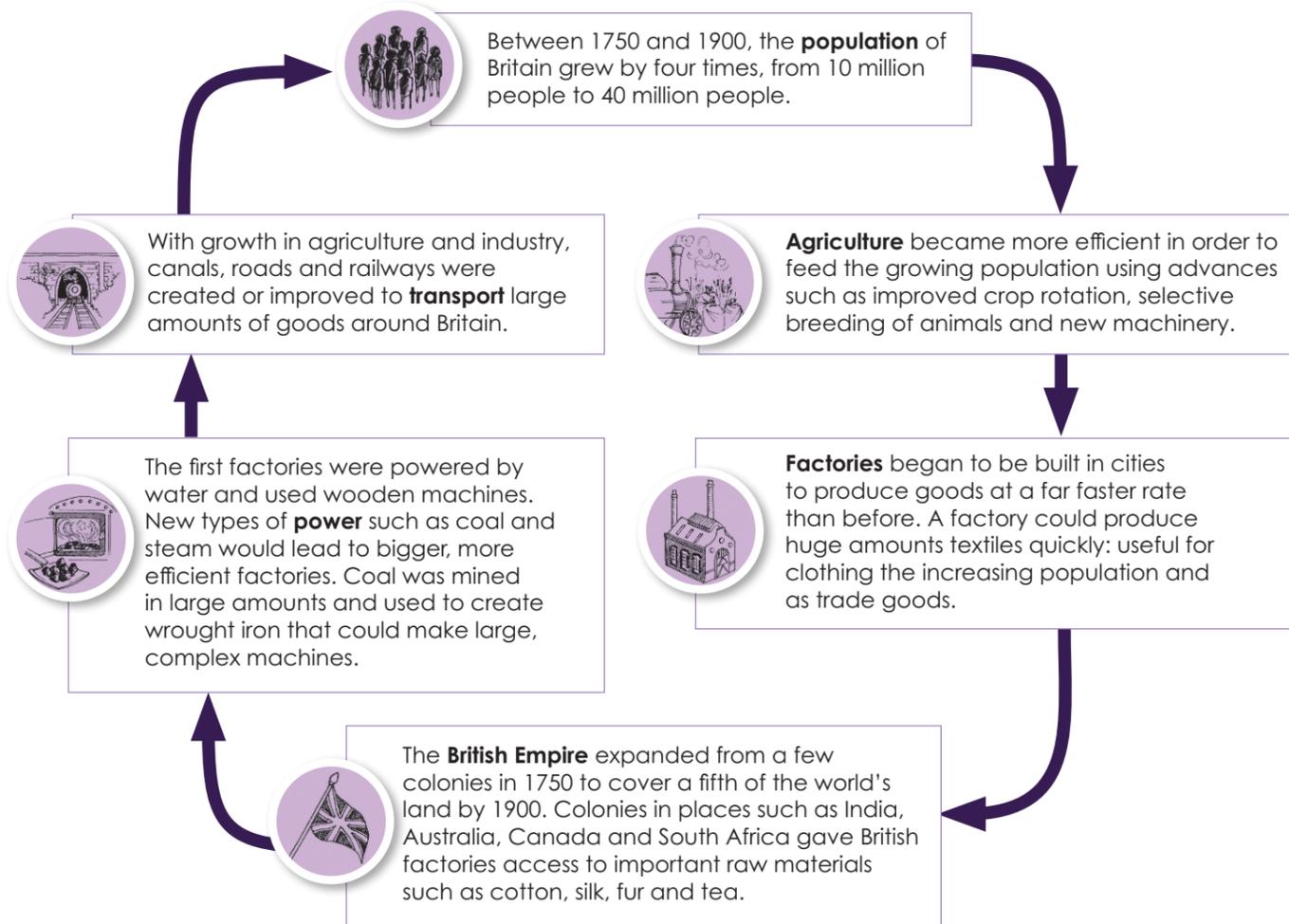




Historians believe there are around six factors that caused the Industrial Revolution. These six factors were population, empire, agriculture, factories, power and transport. Each of these factors were connected and contributed to the development and improvement of Britain during the time that is described as the Industrial Revolution.



Significant People and Places			
Richard Arkwright	James Watt	Humphry Davy	James Brindley
Richard Arkwright opened the first cotton spinning mill using his invention of the water frame. Although mill owners may not have had direct links with the slave trade, they will have indirectly gained from their exploitation in pricing and transportation of cotton.	James Watt improved the steam engines. They would power new mills and transport. Despite his great engineering ability, we now know that Watt's early career included the trafficking of enslaved Africans.	Humphry Davy created a safety lamp to keep coal miners safe from explosions caused by gas in the mines.	James Brindley was one of the early canal engineers who worked on some of the first canals. He played an essential role in shaping the way canals were built during the Industrial Revolution.

What was the Industrial Revolution?

The word '**revolution**' means a process of change. The **Industrial Revolution** was a time in British history where the country changed hugely from a mostly **rural** society to an **industrial** one. This means that many British people moved from living in small towns and villages, where they were farmers, to huge cities, where they worked in places such as factories or mills. It also meant society changed from being based on manufacturing by hand and human or animal power, to a society based on machinery.



Rural



Industrial



Glossary

1	agriculture	the practice of farming including development of soil, growing of crops and looking after animals
2	colonies	a country or area under the full or partial political control of another country. People from the country in control also settle there
3	industrial	a built up area of factories and industry
4	revolution	a process of change
5	rural	an area of the countryside
6	merchants	a person or company involved in general trade, especially one dealing with foreign countries or supplying goods to a particular trade
7	manufacturing	the making of items on a large scale using machinery
8	plantation	an area on which crops such as coffee, sugar, and tobacco are grown
9	smelting	the removal of metal from its ore by a process involving heating and melting
10	steam power	power that is used to power an engine by the force of steam

Significant People and Places

Manchester	Ironbridge	Bridgewater canal	Rhondda Valley
Manchester was nicknamed 'Cottonopolis' because of its cotton industry. The number of cotton mills rose dramatically in a very short space of time: from 2 in 1790 to 66 in 1821.	The world's first iron bridge was erected over the River Severn at Coalbrookdale in 1779. Abraham Darby used a blast furnace and coke as a fuel to produce wrought iron. His son went on to build the Ironbridge.	The Bridgewater canal was the first canal to link cities and towns together. Important industrial cities like Manchester and Liverpool were able to transport goods, like coal and iron, easily and cheaply using the canal.	South Wales was the world's biggest producer of iron. Later, a third of the world's coal was mined in areas like the Rhondda Valley and much of the local population was employed in these industries.