

CONTEXTUALIZATION: CHILD LABOR EVENT CARDS

New technology was created during the Industrial Revolution including machines powered by steam engines that were housed in factories to produce goods.	Working conditions in factories and mines were horrible, with women and children paid a fraction of men's wages.	Many adult factory and mine workers became upset that industrial capitalists were hiring more children to fill positions because they could be paid less than adults.	Industrial accidents happened frequently and many workers, including children, were seriously injured.
Industrialization began in Great Britain in the mid-eighteenth century and quickly spread to other areas of Europe and North America.	Families began moving near factories to find employment.	Factories were open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week in order to maximize profits. Workers, including children, often worked 12 to 13 hours a day.	Reformers, many of whom were women disgusted with the working conditions, low pay, and health concerns associated with factory and mining work, began organizing to demand changes to labor laws.
Children often went to work in factories and mines where they were separated from their families.	Factories were built across Europe and along the northeast coast of North America.	Reporters and reformers began using new technology like photography to show the deplorable conditions in which children worked.	Mining was essential to procure the fossil fuels necessary to power the factories and industrial machines.
	For centuries, children worked alongside their families either on farms or in the home crafting artisan goods.	Industrial capitalists paid factory workers low wages to operate the machines in order to maximize profits.	