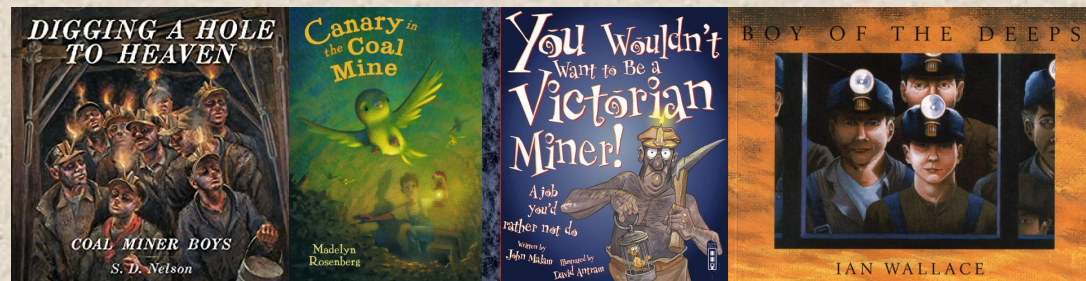


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|-------------------------|--|
| Banksman | Someone at the pit top or surface who was responsible for loading and unloading the cage and signalling to the engineman. |
| Bell pit | An early mine where coal was dug a short distance around the shaft to form a bell shape. |
| Bottom-steward | Somebody who would have been in charge of the colliers at the pit bottom. |
| Cage | The lift used to bring people up and down the mine shaft. |
| Coal face | The part of the seam currently being worked. |
| Collier | Someone who works with coal, usually the getter. |
| Corf | An early wooden tub or basket used to move coal. |
| Drift | An early wooden tub or basket used to move coal. |
| Engineman | Person in the engine house who is in charge of the winding engine. |
| Furnace | A coal fire at the bottom of the shaft which would help with ventilation. |
| Gate | An underground roadway. |
| Getter | Person who worked at the coal face cutting coal from the seam. |
| Hurrier | Person who pulled tubs of coal from the seam to the pit bottom. |
| Motty | Iron tags that colliers would tie on to the tubs of coal. |
| Pit top | The area around the top of a mine shaft. |
| Pit bottom | The area at the bottom of the mine shaft. |
| Riddle | A large sieve used to sort different sizes of coal. |
| Roadway | An underground tunnel. |
| Seam | Underground layer of coal between other layers of rock. |
| Shaft | Vertical tunnel which leads from the surface to under the ground. |
| Snap tin | A metal container used to carry miners' lunch. |
| Tallow candles | An early source of light used underground. Tallow is a hard waxy substance made from animal fat. |
| Thruster | Person who pushed tubs of coal from the seam to the pit bottom. |
| Tipple tin | A pay tin. A single miner could collect the wages for all his men and distribute them from his tin. |
| Trapper | Child who opened and closed underground ventilation doors. |
| Tub | A wooden or metal cart usually with wheels, and sometimes ridden on rails. |
| Ventilation | System of getting fresh air into the mine and removing stale air. |
| Ventilation door | A wooden door that directs the flow of fresh air around the workings of the mine. |
| Winding gear | Machine used to wind people and coal up and down the shaft. This could be powered by a horse, steam or like today, by electricity. |



Books to Read



Coal Mining

Places To Visit

- ◆ **National coal mining museum** (Wakefield) The National Coal Mining Museum for England keeps the stories of coal mining alive by creating enjoyable and inspiring ways to learn.
- ◆ **Peak district mining museum** (Matlock Bath) Take a guided tour into an authentic 1920s lead and fluorspar mine and try your hand at panning for 'gold'.
- ◆ **Black country living museum** (Dudley) is an award winning open air living museum that tells the story of the world's first industrial landscape

Coal mining

Coal has been used since Roman times. At first, coal was collected from drift mines where it was available near the surface. As this coal was used, miners dug further down through the Earth's surface. Deep mineshafts were sunk in the Victorian era to access large amounts of coal in coal seams. Coal seams are found in bands across the British Isles.

Need for coal

The industrial revolution started in about 1760. Engineers designed machines that made products much faster and more cheaply than by hand. Many of these machines were powered by steam engines that used huge amounts of coal. The British coal industry became incredibly important as it provided fuel to power iron and steel works, mills, factories and railways, as well as providing heat at home.