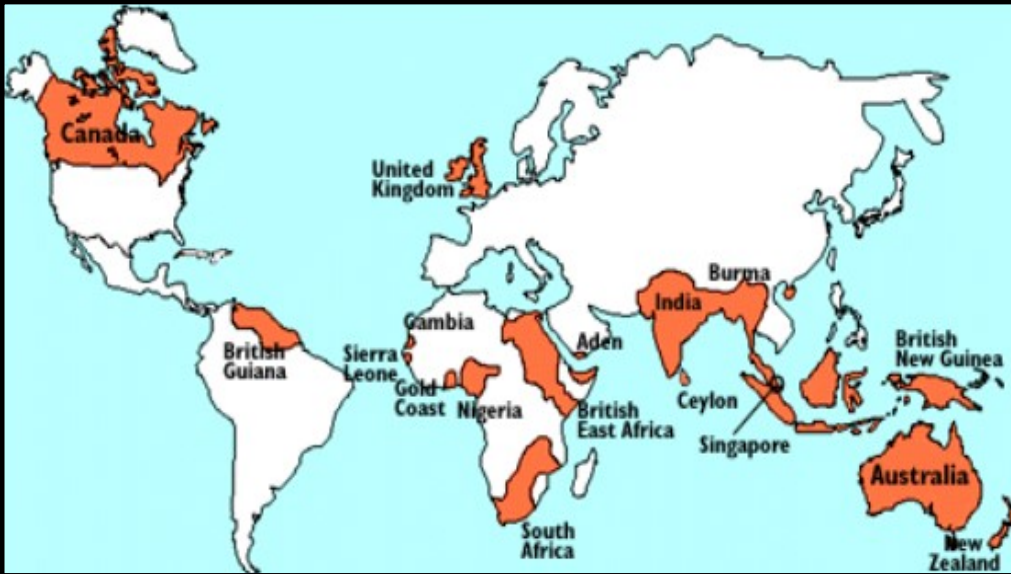




The Victorians

Geography Knowledge Organiser

Map - The British Empire in 1901



By 1901, the British Empire was the largest the world had ever seen and Queen Victoria was head of nearly a quarter of the world's population! At this point, the British Empire was made up of around 400 millions people; however, the population of England was only around 40 million. The empire included the entire Indian subcontinent, Canada, small parts of South America, Australia, New Zealand and large parts of Africa.

Today, Britain has given back most of its colonies back to their own governments.

Countries of the British Empire:

Australia - Australia was used as a location for criminals. Criminals would be shipped to Australia, where they would be used as a workforce. The built roads, buildings, houses, shops etc. It also gave people an opportunity to escape poverty and gain wealth in Australia. It was also an important naval base, helping Britain control the seas.

The Caribbean - Because of the warm climate, the Caribbean grew important crops that Britain could not. Therefore sugar, cocoa and coffee were all grown in the Caribbean and imported to Britain.

Africa - Britain used the people of Africa as slaves and made a lot of money selling them at auctions.

India - India was an important producer of spices and of materials that were traded for money across the Empire.

Key Vocabulary

colony	lands under the control of another country.
empire	a group of countries, people or land controlled and ruled by one single powerful country.
export	send (goods or services) to another country for sale
import	bring (goods or services) into a country from abroad for sale
monarch	The head of a state - a king, queen, or emperor
natural resources	materials from the Earth that are used to support life and meet people's needs
trade	The buying and selling of goods and services.

