

I.G.18

The other side of modernity

Childhood during industrialisation – Comparing children’s life in the 19th and 21st century with learning stations

Based on an idea by Florian Petzold



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Kindheit ist heutzutage meistens eine Zeit der Unbeschwertheit. Doch das Konzept der Kindheit und die Idee, dass Kinder geschützt werden müssen, ist noch recht neu in der Geschichte. Besonders die Industrialisierung und die daraus resultierende Kinderarbeit in Fabriken haben ein Umdenken angeregt. Für die heutige Jugend sind die Bedingungen für Kinder im 19. Jahrhundert schwer vorstellbar. Deswegen bietet dieser Beitrag einen Vergleich der Kindheit im 19. und 21. Jahrhundert.

KOMPETENZPROFIL

Klassenstufe:	8/9
Dauer:	4 Unterrichtsstunden
Kompetenzen:	Texte lesen und verstehen, historische Fotografien beschreiben und interpretieren, Informationen auswerten und vergleichen
Thematische Bereiche:	Kinderarbeit, Gesellschaft und Wirtschaft in Deutschland im 19. Jahrhundert; Industrialisierung und Soziale Frage
Medien:	Texte, Bilder, Mindmap

Auf einen Blick

1. Stunde

Thema:	Childhood then and now
M 1	Childhood over time – What is it like to be a child?
M 2	Childhood in the 19 th and 21 st centuries – School, work, leisure time
Inhalt:	Die Lernenden verschaffen sich einen ersten Überblick über das Thema Kindheit. Sie bereiten das Lernen an Stationen vor.

2./3. Stunde

Thema:	Comparison: childhood in the 19 th and 21 st century
M 3	Station I A – School in the 19 th century
M 4	Station I B – School in the 21 st century
M 5	Station II A – Child labour in the 19 th century
M 6	Station II B – Child labour in the 21 st century
M 7	Station III A – Leisure time in the 19 th century
M 8	Station III B – Leisure time in the 21 st century
Inhalt:	Die Lernenden bearbeiten die drei Stationen jeweils für die beiden Jahrhunderte und halten ihre Ergebnisse in einer Tabelle fest.

4. Stunde

Thema:	Discussion: Childhood in the 19 th and 21 st century
M 9	Final discussion: The Social Question
Inhalt:	Die Lernenden vergleichen ihre Ergebnisse und führen eine Diskussion zur Bedeutung der Sozialen Frage heute.

M 2

Childhood in the 19th and 21st centuries – School, work, leisure time

Use the stations to find out how children lived in the 19th and 21st centuries.



Tasks

1. Work through stations I, II and III individually in any order. Tick off each completed station on your overview. You have _____ minutes to do this. Note down the solutions in bullet points in the table of results.
2. Find a partner. Compare your results and add any missing information.
3. Compare the lives of children in the 19th and 21st centuries. You can mark similarities (blue) and differences (red) in the corresponding colour in your table.
4. Discuss the results of the station learning in class. Formulate a joint¹ conclusion²: In which areas have the children's lives changed, and in which have they not? Make assumptions³ about the reasons for this.

Overview of the stations

All done?	A 19 th century	B 21 st century
Station I: School		
Station II: Work		
Station III: Leisure time		

Our conclusion:

Vocabulary

¹joint: gemeinsam; ²conclusion: die Schlussfolgerung; ³assumption: die Vermutung

M 4

Station I B – School in the 21st century

Compulsory schooling, the school system and teaching: What is school like in Germany today?

Tasks

1. Find a group photo of your class and/or describe your classroom: What is in the classroom? How are you sitting? Why are you sitting like this? How are you dressed?
2. Fill out your timetable and compare it with the timetable from the 19th century.
3. Read the information text. Describe the school system in Germany today.

My class:

Lesson	Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday

The school system in Germany

According to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, every child has the right to attend school. In Germany, teacher training, schools and examinations¹ are organised by the state. Today, all children from the age of 6 to 15/16 are required² by law to attend school. Compulsory education usually lasts 9–10 years, depending on the state. There are different types of school: After primary school, there are secondary schools such as Gymnasium or Gesamtschule. Vocational schools prepare you for a specific profession.

Vocabulary

¹examination: die Prüfung; ²to require sth.: etw. erfordern oder verlangen