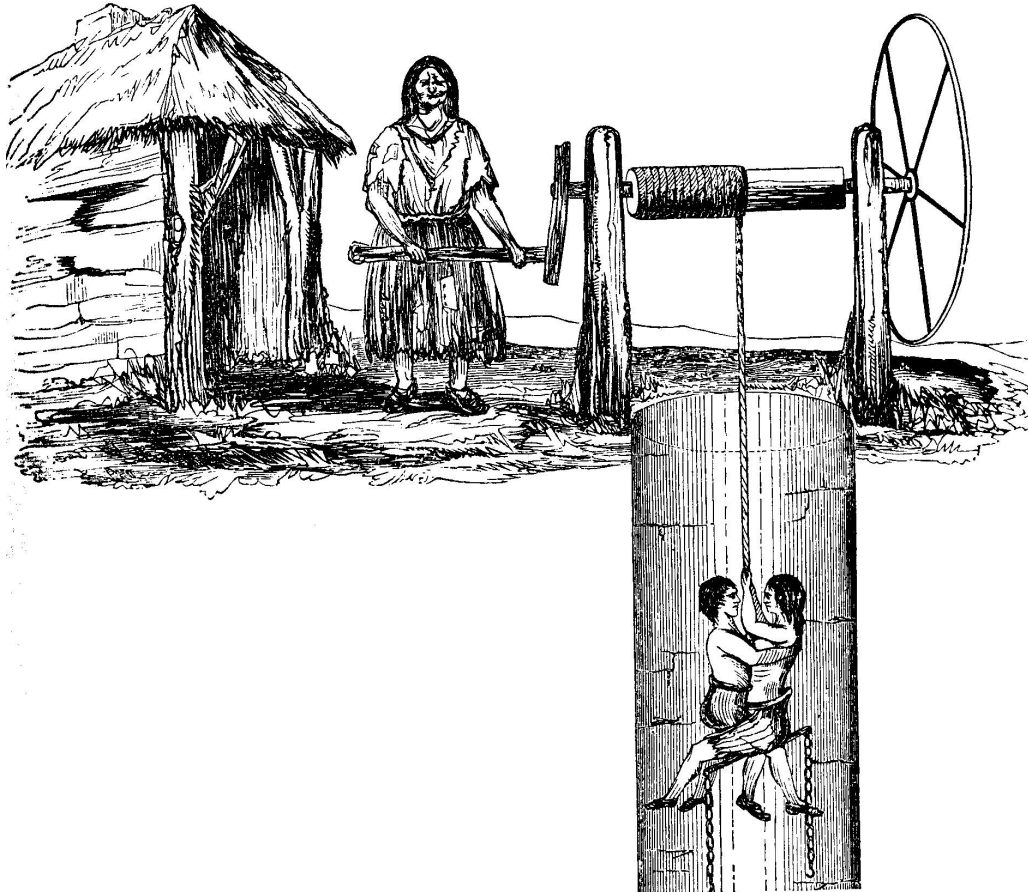


Coal Mining and the Victorians

Using Evidence: Example of an Illustration



This illustration, by S.S Scriven, has been taken from the report to the Royal Commission on the Employment of Children: Mines 1842 Volume 6, p79 and Volume 8, p61.

Questions

1. What does the picture show?
2. What is the woman doing?
3. What materials are the winder and house made from?
4. What are the people wearing?
5. Why are the children in the shaft?
6. How do you think they signalled up and down the shaft?
7. What do you think the loose chains are for?
8. Do you think this looks safe?

If you have been to the Museum you will also be able to answer:

9. How is the pit-top in the picture different to the pit top at the Museum?
10. How is the winder in the picture different from the winder at the Museum?

Extension Questions

11. Who drew this picture and why?
12. Is this what the artist could actually see?
13. What do you think people were most concerned about when they first saw this drawing?
14. How would such a scene be recorded today?