

Year 2 – Feature Finders Knowledge Mat

Subject Specific Vocabulary

Mining	Extracting coal from the earth
coal	Chalk was used by teachers to write on the board. Coal was the main source of power in Victorian times. It was used for cooking and heating and for driving machinery, trains and steam ships.
Bell pit	An early mine where coal was dug a short distance around the shaft to form a bell shape.
Cage	The lift used to bring people up and down the mine shaft.
Drift	A horizontal or sloping roadway leading from the surface to underground workings.
Pit top	The area around the top of a mine shaft.
Pit bottom	The area at the bottom of the mine shaft.
Shaft	Vertical tunnel which leads from the surface to the underground roadways.
trapper	Child who opened and closed underground ventilation doors.



Exciting Books



Sticky Knowledge about history beyond living memory

- Coal mines were dangerous places where roofs sometimes caved in, explosions happened and workers often injured themselves.
- Most children started to work underground when they were around eight years old, but some were as young as five.
- The average coal miner works 60 hours a week. That's standard. Most coal miners work 10 hour shifts, 6 days a week.
- In early 1984, the Conservative government of Margaret Thatcher announced plans to close 20 coal pits which led to the year long miners' strike which ended in March 1985.

A miner

