



A FACTORY KID'S LIFE

What was it like for kids who worked in factories in New Hampshire during the 19th century?

The Daily Schedule!

What time did you have to be where?

- 5 a.m.** Factory whistle blows to wake everyone up.
- 6 a.m.** All workers must be at their stations, and work begins.
- 12 p.m.** Lunch break.
- 6 p.m.** Work day ends.
6 days a week—no vacations!



Age at which
kids could
start working
in factories:

5



Conditions and Dangers!

What was it like in the factories? Could you get hurt as a factory worker?

Textile factories were kept **HOT** and **HUMID** to keep the thread from breaking. Windows and doors were always shut—sometimes even nailed shut.

No chairs were provided, and **NO SITTING** allowed. Workers were expected to stand throughout their entire shift.

Kids fixed broken machinery by sticking their hands inside. It was common for kids to lose fingers or hands while trying to fix the machinery. Many kids even died in factory **ACCIDENTS**.

BREATHING was hard because of all the lint floating in the air. It got into kids' lungs and made them sick.



Moose on the Loose™
Social Studies for Granite State Kids
NEW HAMPSHIRE HISTORICAL SOCIETY