

ACTIVITY SHEET

The Growth of Blaenavon

1) At the start of the 19th century, Monmouth was the most important town in the county. Look at the figures for the number of people who lived there (*) in 1801 and 1841.

(*) Known as the 'population'.

1801	3,345
1841	5,446

Now look at the population figures for Blaenavon:

1801	1,000
1841	5,115

In the space below, draw a graph or bar chart to show the growth of population of the two towns.

2) Which town grew the most quickly between 1801 and 1841?

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3) Can you suggest reasons why one town grew more quickly than the other?

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4) Blaenavon grew from nothing in 1780 to a town of 5,000 people by 1840. Give two reasons why the building of the iron works in 1789 might have been a good thing for the valley.

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5) Give two reasons why Blaenavon iron works might have been **bad** for the valley.

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