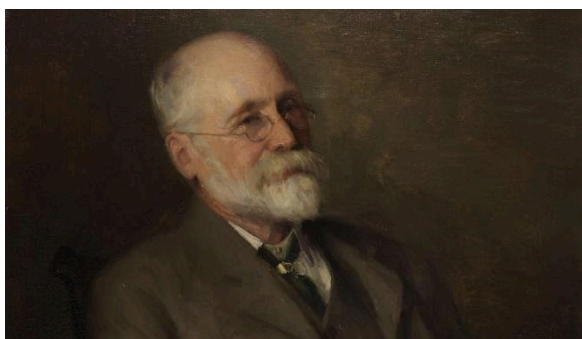


## History Subject Knowledge Bank Year 2: Joseph Rowntree

<u>Vocabulary</u>	<u>Definition</u>
<b>Argument</b>	Different points of view
<b>Locality</b>	From the local area
<b>significance</b>	Something that is of importance
<b>Philanthropist</b>	Someone who wants to improve the welfare of people
<b>Contribution</b>	The part played by something or someone
<b>Primary evidence</b>	Information produced from the period studied
<b>Secondary evidence</b>	Information produced about the period studied but not from the time of the period studied.
<b>Events</b>	Things that have happened
<b>Achievements</b>	Something done successfully
<b>Identify</b>	Indicate what something is



### Who was Joseph Rowntree?

- Joseph Rowntree was born on the 24th May 1836. He was a philanthropist and businessman from York.
- He is best known for helping poorer people and working at his family's chocolate business.
- Joseph Rowntree visits Ireland with his father and brother. Ireland is in the middle of a famine. They see the starvation and horror the famine causes. This trip makes a lasting impression on Joseph.

### What did Joseph Rowntree do?

- In 1869 he joined his brother, Henry, who owned a chocolate factory in York. When Henry died in 1883, Joseph became the owner. The factory was one of the most important in Britain.
- Even as a powerful and rich businessman, he was interested in improving the quality of life of his workers. This led to him becoming a philanthropist-he started many charities.
- Joseph Rowntree put much of his money into trusts, where it could help poorer people in his community.
- He wanted to reduce poverty, change housing conditions and improve education. These trusts still exist today.

### What are Rowntrees remembered for?

- Over 100 years ago, the Rowntrees took a stand against the horrible Victorian conditions of the factory and the cruel treatment of the poor.
- Joseph and his family wanted to make society a better place.
- 'Employees should never be regarded as cogs in a machine'.

### How did Joseph Rowntree help his workers?

- He provided his workers with a library, free education, a works magazine, a social welfare officer, a doctor, a dentist and a pension fund.
- In 1921 he opened Rowntree Park for his workers and the people of York. Joseph Rowntree died on 24th February 1925.
- He built New Earswick, a village in York, for people with low wages, including staff who worked in his factory, giving them the opportunity to have decent homes which they could afford.
- The factory grew from 30 to over 4,000 employees by the end of the 1800s.
- His legacy includes introducing eight hour working days and campaigning for a national minimum wage, helping many workers to move out of poverty.