

My Local Social Studies / History Fact-File: Discovering Our Past

Learning objective: To research and record significant historical features, changes, or events in the local area.

Use this fact-file to record your local history investigation. Speak to an older family member, visit your local library, or look at historical maps to find out how your area has changed over time. Ellie the Elephant says: 'Remember to check the dates to see how far back your history goes!'

Word bank: settlement · chronological · landmark · industry · community · archaeology · tradition · architecture

1. My Local Area: What is the name of your town or village and why is it located where it is? (Think about rivers, hills, or roads). (2 marks)

2. A Historical Landmark: Choose one old building, statue, or monument nearby. When was it built and what was it used for in the past? (3 marks)

3. Changing Times: Describe one way your local area has changed since your grandparents were children (e.g., new shops, different transport, or housing). (2 marks)

4. The Local Economy: What jobs did people in your area do 100 years ago? (e.g., farming, mining, or working in a specific factory). (2 marks)

5. Historical Evidence: List two places where you found your information (e.g., a museum, a plaque on a wall, or an interview with a local resident). (2 marks)

Extension challenge: Imagine you are a time traveller arriving in your town 100 years from now. Write a short paragraph describing how you think the buildings and transport might look different.