

Champions of Equality: Understanding Civil Rights

Learning objective: To understand the meaning of civil rights and identify how individuals have campaigned for fairness and equality in history.

Read the questions carefully and use your knowledge of history to explain why equality is important. Think about how Ellie the elephant remembers the stories of those who stood up for what was right.

Civil rights are the basic freedoms and rights that belong to every person, ensuring they are treated with fairness and respect. Throughout history, brave individuals have worked to challenge unfair laws and prejudices. By using their voices, organising peaceful protests, and sharing their stories, these campaigners have helped to create a more inclusive world where everyone has the same opportunities, regardless of who they are.

Word bank: Civil Rights · Equality · Justice · Fairness · Campaign · Segregation · Protest

1. In your own words, define what 'civil rights' means. Why is it important that everyone has these rights? (2 marks)

2. Ellie the elephant remembers stories of people who stood up for fairness. Name one way a person might peacefully campaign for a change in the law. (1 mark)

3. What does the word 'equality' mean? Give an example of how you can show equality in your classroom. (2 marks)

4. Why do you think it is important to learn about people from the past who fought for justice? (2 marks)

5. If a group of people were being treated unfairly, what are two peaceful actions they could take to make their voices heard? (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of a 'Bridge of Fairness' that connects two different groups of people, showing them working together in harmony.



Extension challenge: Research a person from history who fought for civil rights. Write a short diary entry from their perspective describing why they chose to stand up for equality.