

Exploring Our Local History with Ellie the Elephant

Learning objective: To investigate and record features of the local area and identify how the environment has changed over time.

Use your local knowledge to complete the drawing task. Think about the buildings, roads, and natural features you see in your town or village today. Ellie the Elephant has a wonderful memory for the past, so try to think about what might have been there a long time ago too!

Draw: Create a split-scene drawing. On the left side, draw a historic part of your local area using dark, detailed lines to show old stone or brickwork. On the right side, draw how that same space looks today, using bright colors to show modern signs, roads, and technology. Include Ellie the Elephant in the center, holding a magnifying glass to compare the two sides.



Label words: Historic building · Modern street · Landmark · Nature · Traffic · Cobbled path · Materials

Steps:

1. Step 1: Draw a building in your local area that looks very old. Label the materials it is made from (e.g. brick, stone, or wood).
2. Step 2: Add a modern feature to your drawing, such as a mail box or a streetlight. Why is this different from the old building?

3. Step 3: Label one 'Landmark' on your drawing that helps people know exactly where they are in your town.
4. Step 4: Think about the transport of the past. Draw a horse and carriage or an old bicycle near your historic building.
5. Step 5: Write one sentence explaining how your local area has changed from the past to the present day.