

Year 5 History Assessment: Uncovering Our Local History

Learning objective: To demonstrate understanding of how local history has shaped our community, including the use of primary and secondary sources.

Read each question carefully. Use your historical knowledge to provide clear and accurate answers. Make sure to use full sentences for longer responses.

Ellie the elephant has been helping our class look at old maps of our town. By comparing a map from 1850 with a modern map, we can see how the high street has changed. Some old buildings have been replaced by new shops, but the local park and the old stone bridge remain exactly where they were over 170 years ago. Pip the caterpillar found a diary in the local archives written by a child who lived here during the Victorian era, while Nova the owl has been interviewing local residents to record their memories of how the town looked fifty years ago.

Word bank: Primary source · Secondary source · Chronological · Artifact · Evidence · Settlement · Oral history · Archive

1. Identify one primary source mentioned in the passage and explain why it is a useful piece of evidence for a historian. (2 marks)

2. Explain the difference between a primary source and a secondary source. (2 marks)

3. Max the monkey wants to know why our town was built near the river. Suggest two reasons why people in the past often chose to build settlements near water. (2 marks)

4. Why is it important to use more than one source when investigating local history? (3 marks)

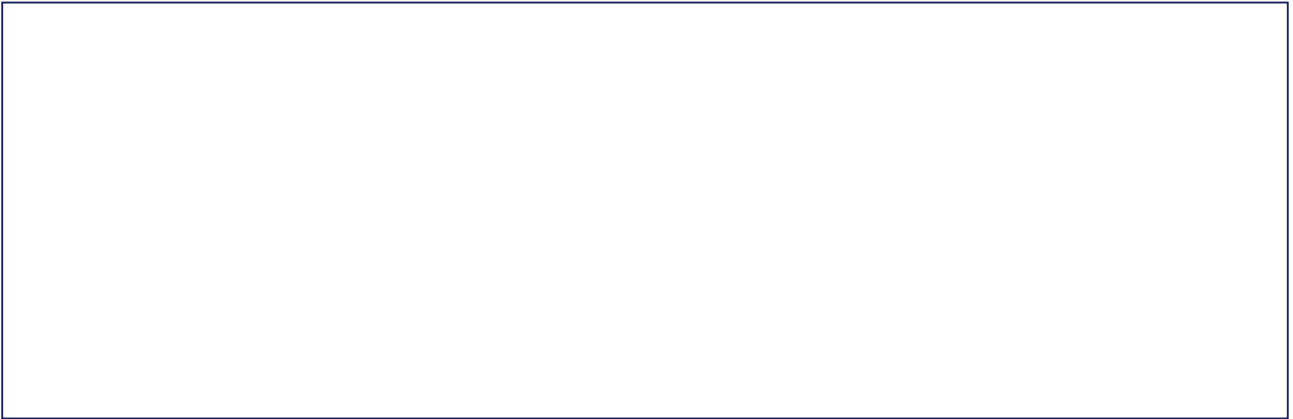
5. If you were to research the history of your own school building, where could you look for information and what sort of records might you find? (3 marks)

6. Describe one major change that has occurred in your local area over the last 100 years. Explain how this change has affected the way people live or work today. (3 marks)

7. Extended Writing: Imagine you are a historian in the year 2100. Write a short report explaining why it is important for future generations to preserve the history of our town today. Use examples of what you would want them to remember about our community. (5 marks)

8. If a local museum wanted to buy a rare Victorian coin to display, and it cost £45.50, how much change would they receive from a £50 note? (5 marks)

Draw: Draw a 'Then and Now' split image of a local landmark. On the left side, show how it looked 100 years ago; on the right side, show how it looks today.



Extension challenge: Total: /25. Research task: Find one historical object in your home (like an old photograph, a piece of jewellery, or a tool) and write a paragraph explaining what it tells you about the past.