

Ellie's Local History Investigation

Learning objective: To develop an understanding of how local history has shaped our community and how to use historical sources to investigate the past.

Join Ellie the elephant as she explores the history of our local area. Read the questions carefully and use your knowledge of historical evidence to find the answers!

Answer Key: 1. A (Archive); 2. True; 3. Primary Source; 4. B (Census); 5. False; 6. A (Artifact); 7. True; 8. 19th Century; 9. C (It tells us about past lives); 10. True.

Word bank: Archive · Primary Source · Chronological · Artifact · Census · Heritage

1. 1. What do we call the place where historical records, documents, and old photographs are kept safe? A) Archive* B) Library C) Shop D) Bank (1 mark)

2. 2. True or False: A photograph taken in the year 1920 is considered a primary source of history. (1 mark)

3. 3. If you find a diary written by someone who lived in your town 100 years ago, is this a primary or secondary source? (1 mark)

4. 4. Which of these is an official government count of the population that helps us learn about families in the past? A) Map B) Census* C) Painting D) Poem (1 mark)

5. 5. True or False: All historical buildings were built exactly 500 years ago. (1 mark)

6. 6. An old coin or a broken piece of pottery found in the ground is known as an: A) Artifact* B) Invention C) Instruction D) Electricity (1 mark)

7. 7. True or False: Oral history involves interviewing older members of the community to learn about the past. (1 mark)

8. 8. If a building was built in 1845, which century does it belong to? (1 mark)

9. 9. Why are local street names often useful for historians? A) They are colourful B) They sound funny C) They provide clues about past businesses or people* D) They are always short (1 mark)

10. 10. True or False: Local history includes studying how the jobs people do in our town have changed over time. (1 mark)

Draw: Draw a picture of a historical building in your local area, adding details like stone carvings, old-fashioned lanterns, or a sign showing the year it was built.



Extension challenge: Interview a family member or neighbour about how your local high street or park has changed in the last 20 years. Create a 'Then and Now' comparison list with at least three differences.