

My Local Social Studies / History Investigator Fact-File

Learning objective: To identify and explain changes in the local area over time using historical evidence and enquiry.

Join Ellie the Elephant on a journey through time! Use this fact-file to record your discoveries about your local area. You might need to look at old photographs, visit the local library, or interview someone who has lived in the area for a long time. Be as detailed as possible to help Ellie build her history archive.

Word bank: Chronology · Architecture · Landmark · Heritage · Primary source · Generation · Transformation · Community

1. The Past: Describe a building, street, or landmark in your area as it looked in the past. What was its original purpose? (3 marks)

2. The Present: Observe the same location today. How has it changed? Describe the differences in appearance or use. (3 marks)

3. Evidence Hunt: What sources did you use to find this information? Explain why these sources are reliable for a historian. (4 marks)

4. Cause and Effect: Explain why you think these changes happened in your local area over time. What events or needs might have caused them? (5 marks)

5. Compare and Contrast: Compare the life of a child living in your area 100 years ago with your own life today. How were their daily routines different? (5 marks)

6. Historical Justification: If you were in charge of planning the future of your local area, which historical landmark would you preserve and why? (6 marks)

Extension challenge: Imagine you have discovered a 'time capsule' buried in your local park from 100 years ago. Write a creative diary entry from the perspective of the person who buried it, explaining why they chose those specific items to represent their life and community.