

# Uncovering Our Local Social Studies / History with Ellie the Elephant

Become a local history detective and discover the secrets hidden right on your doorstep!

- A primary source is an item or document from the time period being studied, such as an old photograph, a diary entry, or a local newspaper from the past.
- Local history often changes because of the economy; for example, many towns grew larger because of the arrival of the railway or the opening of a local factory.
- You can investigate the past by visiting a local museum or library to look at census records, which tell us who lived in our houses many years ago.
- Place names can provide clues about history; names ending in '-chester' or '-caster' often show us where Roman settlements were built long ago.
- Oral history involves interviewing people in the community to record their personal memories, ensuring that stories are preserved for future generations.

*Did you know? Did you know? Every road, park, and building in your town has a story! By looking at old maps from the local archive, you can see how your street has changed over the last 100 years. Ellie the Elephant uses her amazing memory to remember stories told by older residents, which is called 'oral history'—a brilliant way to learn about the past!*

**Key vocabulary:** Primary source · Chronology · Archive · Settlement · Landmarks · Oral history