

Bonfire Night: A Historical Investigation with Ellie

Learning objective: To understand the historical origins of Bonfire Night and reflect on the importance of traditions and remembrance in British culture.

Help Ellie the Elephant piece together the history of 5th November. Use the word bank to help you write your responses. For the 'Greater Depth' questions, think carefully about how history affects the world today.

Word bank: Guy Fawkes · Parliament · tradition · commemoration · conspiracy · remembrance · safety · history

1. The Historical Context: Explain why the events of 1605 led to the tradition of Bonfire Night. What were the plotters trying to achieve? (3 marks)

2. Compare and Contrast: How have celebrations on the 5th of November changed from the 17th century to the modern day? (3 marks)

3. Justify your answer: Is it important for the UK to continue marking this historical event every year? Why or why not? (4 marks)

4. What might happen if: Imagine if the Gunpowder Plot had been successful. How might the history of our government be different today? (4 marks)

5. Safety First: Max the Monkey is planning a firework display. List three safety rules he must follow to ensure everyone stays safe. (3 marks)

6. Reflection: Explain why we use fireworks and bonfires as symbols of this historical event. What do they represent? (2 marks)

Extension challenge: Creative Writing Task: Write a short, dramatic diary entry from the perspective of someone living in London in 1605 who has just heard the news that the plot was discovered. Use emotive language to describe the atmosphere in the city.