

Celebrating Black History Month with Ellie

Learning objective: To develop reading comprehension skills by retrieving, inferring, and evaluating information from a non-fiction text about Black History Month.

Read the passage below carefully. Then, answer the questions that follow using evidence from the text.

Every October, Ellie the elephant opens her massive library of history books to celebrate Black History Month. It is a time when schools across the United Kingdom reflect on the contributions of Black people to our society and culture. Ellie loves teaching her friends about historical pioneers who changed the world, such as Mary Seacole, who provided comfort and care to soldiers during the Crimean War, and Walter Tull, a brave footballer and officer who broke barriers in the early twentieth century. Black History Month is not just about looking at the past; it is about honouring the achievements that continue to shape our present. Whether it is in science, the arts, or sports, the impact of these individuals is immense. By learning these stories, we gain a deeper understanding of our shared heritage. Ellie reminds everyone that whilst we celebrate these important figures throughout October, their stories deserve to be recognised and cherished all year round. Through reading and listening, we keep their remarkable legacies alive for future generations.

Word bank: contribution · heritage · significant · achievements · commemorate · pioneers

1. According to the text, which two historical figures does Ellie mention as examples of pioneers? (2 marks)

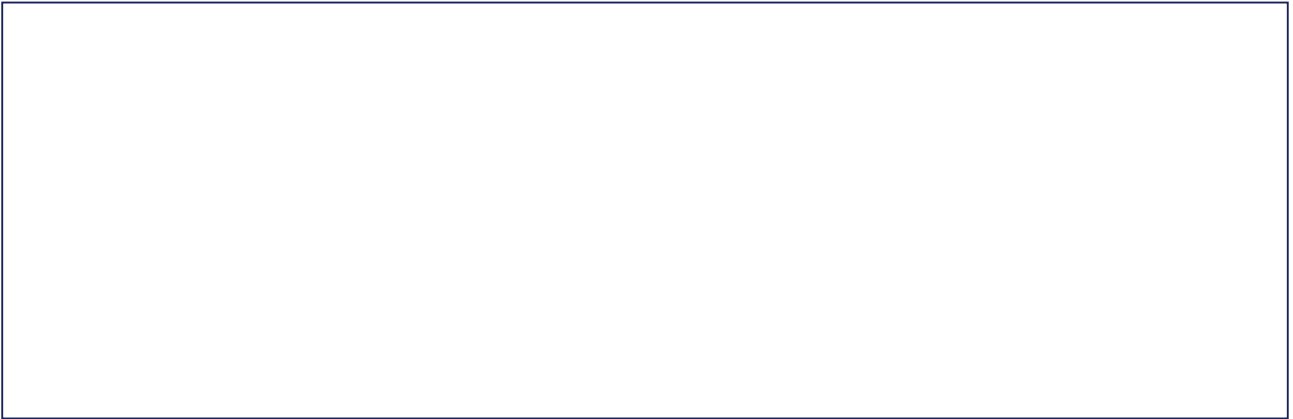
2. In which month is Black History Month celebrated in the United Kingdom? (1 mark)

3. Why does the author suggest that Ellie keeps her 'massive library' of books? (2 marks)

4. What does the phrase 'broke barriers' suggest about Walter Tull's experiences? (2 marks)

5. Ellie says these stories should be celebrated all year round, not just in October. Do you agree with this? Give a reason for your answer. (3 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of Ellie the elephant standing in a library, holding an open history book that shows a picture of a historical pioneer.



Extension challenge: Research a person who has made a significant contribution to British history. Write a short paragraph explaining why they are important, just like Ellie does in the passage.