

## Ellie's Local History Walk

*Learning objective: To understand how to use historical evidence to learn about our local area.*

Read the story below carefully. Answer the questions in the spaces provided. Look at the word bank if you get stuck.

Ellie the elephant loves to walk around her village. She looks at the old buildings to learn about the past. One day, Ellie found an old stone bridge near the river. It was built a long time ago. She saw a date carved into the stone: 1850. Ellie thought about who walked over this bridge before her. She saw an old shop that is now a library. The shop had a sign for a baker. This is a clue. It tells Ellie that people used to buy bread there. Ellie looks for clues everywhere. She looks at old maps and talks to the oldest people in the village. They tell her stories about how the roads were once dirt tracks. Now, the roads have smooth tarmac. By looking at buildings and talking to people, Ellie is a local historian. She learns how the village changes over time. Every stone and street has a secret story to tell if you look closely enough.

*Word bank: History · Evidence · Village · Past · Changes*

**1. What date did Ellie find carved into the stone bridge? (1 mark)**

**2. What was the library used for in the past? (1 mark)**

**3. How do we know that travel in the village has changed since the past? (2 marks)**

**4. Why does Ellie talk to the oldest people in the village? (2 marks)**

**5. Do you think it is important to save old buildings? Why? (2 marks)**

**Draw:** Draw a picture of the old stone bridge that Ellie found, and draw a small sign on it that says '1850'.



*Extension challenge: Ask an adult at home to tell you one thing they remember about your local area from when they were younger. Write down one interesting fact they tell you.*