

My Local History Fact-File: Investigating Our Area

Learning objective: To research and record significant historical features, changes, or events in the local area.

Use this fact-file to document what you have discovered about your local area. You might need to look at local maps, visit a library, check historical archives online, or interview an older family member. Ellie the elephant always says that every street tells a story, so be a history detective and fill in the boxes below!

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

1. Name of your local area and one significant landmark: Identify where you are researching and one building, statue, or monument that has been there for a long time. (2 marks)

2. The Big Change: How has this area changed since the past? Describe one way the landscape or buildings looked different 50 or 100 years ago. (3 marks)

3. Historical Industry: What jobs did people in this area do in the past? (e.g., farming, mining, manufacturing, or trade). (2 marks)

4. Primary Source Evidence: Describe one piece of evidence you found (a photograph, a map, or a story from a relative) and what it tells you about the area. (3 marks)

5. Why is it important to remember our local history? Explain your own opinion on why we should protect historical sites in our community. (4 marks)

Extension challenge: Imagine you are a town planner from the year 1924. Write a short advertisement (no more than 50 words) describing your local area to someone moving there for the first time, mentioning the local industry or landmarks of that time.