

Ellie's History Lesson: Florence Nightingale

Learning objective: To understand the significance of Florence Nightingale and her contribution to nursing.

Read the story about Florence Nightingale carefully. Use the word bank to help you answer the questions. Write your answers in the boxes provided.

Ellie the elephant loves learning about important people from history. Today, she is teaching us about Florence Nightingale. Florence was born in 1820. She wanted to help sick people, so she decided to become a nurse.

In 1854, there was a war. Many soldiers were hurt and sent to a hospital in a place called Scutari. The hospital was very dirty and dark. Florence arrived to help. She knew that germs made people sicker. She worked hard to make the hospital clean and safe. She washed the bed sheets and made sure the rooms were tidy.

At night, Florence walked through the halls to check on the soldiers. She carried a small lamp to see in the dark. The soldiers were happy to see her. They called her 'The Lady with the Lamp'. Because of Florence, many soldiers got better. She changed how hospitals were run forever. Today, nurses still follow her kind example to care for people who are unwell. Ellie thinks Florence was very brave and kind to help so many people.

Word bank: Nurse · Hospital · Lamp · Clean · Soldiers · History

1. What did the soldiers call Florence Nightingale? (1 mark) (1 mark)

2. Why did Florence wash the bed sheets at the hospital? (1 mark) (1 mark)

3. Why was it important that Florence carried a lamp at night? (2 marks) (2 marks)

4. How do we know that Florence cared about the soldiers? (2 marks) (2 marks)

5. Do you think Florence Nightingale was a good leader? Explain why. (2 marks) (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of Florence Nightingale holding her lamp in the dark hospital ward.



Extension challenge: Imagine you are a nurse today. Write one sentence about how you would help someone feel better.