

Exploring Our Local Heritage with Ellie the Elephant

Learning objective: To understand how to investigate local history using primary and secondary sources, and to recognise how local areas change over time.

Read each flashcard carefully. Use the front to test your knowledge of historical enquiry and the back to check your understanding. Pay close attention to the vocabulary used in historical research.

What is a Primary Source?

A document, object, or piece of evidence created at the time under study (e.g., a diary, a photograph, or a map from the past).

What is a Secondary Source?

A source that interprets or analyses primary sources, created after the event (e.g., a modern history textbook or a documentary).

What is an Archive?

A place where historical records, documents, and physical artefacts are stored and preserved for public study.

What is Oral History?

Information about the past gathered through recorded interviews with people who lived through or witnessed historical events.

Define 'Chronological Order'.

Arranging events or records in the exact order in which they happened in time.

What does 'Land Use' mean in local history?

How a specific piece of land has been used over time, such as changing from farmland to a housing estate or a factory.

What is an Artefact?

An object made or shaped by a human being, which is of historical or archaeological interest.

What is the difference between a fact and an inference in history?

A fact is something proven to be true; an inference is a conclusion drawn from evidence, even if it is not explicitly stated.

Why is a census useful for local historians?

A census provides a snapshot of a population at a specific time, revealing names, occupations, and family structures in a local area.

What is 'Heritage'?

The traditions, buildings, objects, and stories that are passed down from previous generations to the present day.

How can old maps help us understand our local area?

Comparing maps from different decades shows how physical geography and infrastructure (like roads and railways) have expanded or changed.

What is the value of a 'Perspective' in history?

It acknowledges that different people experienced the same event in different ways, shaped by their own lives and beliefs.