

Exploring Our Local Area with Ellie the Elephant

Learning objective: To understand how our local area has changed over time and to identify features of our community.

Read each question carefully. Use your knowledge of history and your own local area to help Ellie the Elephant uncover the secrets of your town or village.

Ellie the Elephant loves visiting new places! She has been looking at old photographs of our town and comparing them to how things look today. Some things have stayed the same, but many things have changed. By looking at old buildings and talking to people who have lived here a long time, we can learn all about the history of where we live.

Word bank: past · present · change · buildings · photograph · map · history

1. Ellie has found an old photograph of our high street. Name one thing in the photograph that might look different today. (2 marks)

2. Why is it helpful to look at an old map of our area to learn about the past? (2 marks)

3. Think of a building in your local area. Is it very old or is it new? How can you tell? (2 marks)

4. If you could ask an older person in your community one question about what our town was like when they were a child, what would you ask? (2 marks)

5. True or False: We can learn about history by looking at things that have changed in our local area. (1 mark)

Draw: Draw a picture of your favorite building in your local area as it looks today. In the corner, draw a small 'time machine' bubble showing what you think that same spot might have looked like 100 years ago.

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for a drawing of a building and a 'time machine' bubble.

Extension challenge: Go on a 'History Walk' around your neighborhood with an adult. Spot three features that show the area is old (such as stone carvings, old street signs, or Victorian lamp posts) and write down where you found them.