Ellie’s History Corner: Florence Nightingale

Learning objective: To understand the significance of Florence Nightingale’s work in the Crimean War and how she improved hospital conditions.

Read the questions carefully and use your knowledge of Florence Nightingale to provide clear, detailed answers. Remember to use full sentences.

Ellie the elephant has been reading all about Florence Nightingale! Florence was a famous nurse who travelled to Scutari during the Crimean War. She noticed that the soldiers were not just suffering from wounds, but also from the dirty conditions in the hospital. By cleaning the wards, providing fresh food, and improving air flow, she helped save many lives. She often walked through the wards at night checking on the patients with her lamp, which is how she earned her famous nickname.

Word bank: Scutari · Crimean War · Sanitation · Nursing · The Lady with the Lamp · Hygiene · Hospitals

1. Why did Florence Nightingale travel to the hospital in Scutari? (2 marks)

2. Explain two ways Florence Nightingale improved the conditions for the soldiers in the hospital. (2 marks)

3. How did Florence Nightingale earn the nickname 'The Lady with the Lamp'? (2 marks)

4. Why was cleanliness (hygiene) so important in the hospitals during the 1800s? (2 marks)

5. If you were a nurse in the 1800s, what is one piece of equipment you would carry to help your patients, and why? (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of Florence Nightingale inside the hospital at Scutari holding her lamp, showing how she brought comfort to the soldiers at night.

Extension challenge: Imagine you are a soldier in the hospital. Write a short diary entry (3-4 sentences) describing how you feel now that Florence Nightingale has arrived and cleaned the ward.