Celebrating Black History Month with Ellie

Learning objective: To understand the purpose of Black History Month and recognise the contributions of Black people to British history.

Read the text carefully. Use the word bank to help you understand the key terms. Write your answers in the boxes provided.

Ellie the elephant loves to visit the local library to learn about history. Every October, she celebrates Black History Month. This is a special time in the UK to remember the important work of Black people throughout history. Ellie has learnt about many heroes who have made a big difference in our world. Some were brave people who fought for equality so that everyone could be treated fairly. Others were talented doctors, writers, and inventors.

By studying these stories, we learn about the diverse history of our country. Ellie believes that when we learn about the past, we can build a kinder future. It is not just about one month of the year; it is about remembering that everyone's story matters. Whether they were born here or moved to the UK from far away, their contributions have shaped the Britain we live in today. Ellie likes to share these stories with all her friends. She says that knowing the truth about history helps us to respect one another and celebrate our differences. When we look back at the past, we see how much we have achieved together.

Word bank: Contribution: something given to help others · Heritage: history and traditions · Diverse: a mix of different people · Equality: being treated fairly

1. 1. In which month does the UK celebrate Black History Month? (Find and retrieve) (1 mark)

2. 2. Name two types of roles that the heroes in the text had. (Find and retrieve) (2 marks)

3. 3. Why does Ellie think it is important to learn about the past? (Read between the lines) (2 marks)

4. 4. What does the word 'equality' mean in the context of the text? (Read between the lines) (2 marks)

5. 5. Why do you think it is important for schools to celebrate Black History Month? (Opinion + justify) (3 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of Ellie the elephant standing in a library, holding a book about a famous historical figure.

Extension challenge: Choose one person from history who you think has made the world a better place. Write two sentences about why they are important.