Reflecting on Contributions: Black History Month

Learning objective: To evaluate the significance of Black History Month by analysing the impact of historical figures and discussing the importance of representation and equality in society.

Read each question carefully. Use your historical knowledge and PSHE understanding to provide thoughtful, well-reasoned responses. Aim to use the vocabulary from the word bank in your answers.

This worksheet focuses on your ability to analyse historical impact rather than providing a summary text. Use your prior knowledge of key historical figures, such as Mary Seacole, Rosa Parks, or Walter Tull, to inform your answers.

Word bank: contribution · equality · legacy · injustice · advocacy · representation · resilience · pioneer

1. Ellie the elephant has an incredible memory for history. She says, 'Black History Month is not just about looking back, but about building a fairer future.' Explain why reflecting on the past is a necessary step for achieving equality in the present. (3 marks)

2. Compare and contrast the methods used by two different pioneers in the fight against injustice. How did their unique approaches lead to social change? (4 marks)

3. Justify your answer: Why is it important for the national curriculum to include a diverse range of historical perspectives throughout the entire year, rather than solely during October? (3 marks)

4. What might happen to our collective understanding of history if the contributions of Black individuals were excluded from textbooks? Discuss the impact of such an omission. (3 marks)

5. Identify one modern-day figure who you believe is creating a positive legacy. Explain the qualities they possess that make them a role model for future generations. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a 'Tree of Legacy'. On the roots, write the names of historical pioneers who fought for equality. On the branches, draw symbols representing the positive changes they helped bring to fruition in our modern society.

Extension challenge: Imagine you are curating a new museum exhibition titled 'Voices of Change'. Write a proposal for three exhibits you would include. For each exhibit, justify why the person or event chosen is vital for educating the public about the struggle for justice and the celebration of Black achievement.