History Heroes: Celebrating Black History Month with Ellie

Learning objective: To recognise the contributions of significant Black individuals to British and world history and to understand why we celebrate Black History Month.

Read the questions carefully and use your historical knowledge to provide detailed answers. Ellie the elephant is here to help you remember the important stories of the past!

Ellie the elephant has a magnificent memory. She loves to share stories about people who changed the world through their bravery, creativity, and leadership. During Black History Month, we take special time to learn about these inspiring figures and how their actions have helped shape the society we live in today. From scientists and doctors to artists and civil rights campaigners, their stories teach us about the importance of fairness and the power of standing up for what is right.

Word bank: contribution · legacy · equality · achievement · courage · pioneer · history · culture

1. Why do you think it is important for historians to set aside a specific month, such as Black History Month, to focus on these stories? (2 marks)

2. Choose one historical figure you have studied who campaigned for equality. Describe one specific action they took that showed great courage. (2 marks)

3. Compare and contrast the achievements of a Black scientist and a Black artist from history. How did their work impact the world differently? (3 marks)

4. Justify your answer: Does learning about the past help us build a fairer future? Explain your reasoning. (3 marks)

5. What might happen to our understanding of the world if we only learned about history from one perspective? (2 marks)

6. Explain why the term 'legacy' is used when we talk about the people we celebrate during Black History Month. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a commemorative stamp that features a person who has made a significant contribution to history. Include symbols around them that represent their greatest achievement.

Extension challenge: Imagine you are a reporter for a historical newspaper. Write a short interview script between yourself and a pioneer of your choice, asking them what inspired them to change the world and what advice they have for children today.