

Florence Nightingale: The Lady with the Lamp

Step into history with Ellie the Elephant and discover how one person changed the world of medicine forever!

- Florence Nightingale travelled to the Scutari hospital in Turkey during the Crimean War in 1854 to lead a team of nurses.
- Upon arrival, she found the hospital in a terrible state, with no clean water, poor sanitation, and many pests, which caused diseases to spread quickly.
- She insisted on scrubbing the wards, cleaning the bedding, and improving the ventilation to ensure a fresh, healthy environment for the patients.
- At night, she carried a lamp while checking on her patients, which is why the soldiers began calling her 'The Lady with the Lamp'.
- When she returned to England, she used her experiences to campaign for better hospital design and training for nurses, establishing the first professional nursing school.

Did you know? Did you know? Florence Nightingale was a brilliant mathematician! She used her skills to create 'polar area diagrams'—a type of pie chart—to prove that more soldiers were dying from poor hospital conditions than from their actual battlefield wounds.

Key vocabulary: Scutari · Sanitation · Victorian · Hygiene · Statistics · Nursing · Compassion