

Y1 - Childhood

Overarching Question – How is your life different to a child in the 1950s?



10) How has the place we live changed since the 1950s?

9) Why was Queen Elizabeth II's coronation important in the 1950s?

8) What was it like to be a child in the 1950s?

7) What was everyday life like in the 1950s?

6) How long ago was the 1950s?

5) Who is in my family and how are we all connected?

4) What special events have happened in my life and when did they happen?

3) What order do things in my life happen in?

2) How do people change as they grow older?

1) What do 'past' and 'present' mean?

Year 1 - School Days

Overarching Question – How were Victorian schools different to your school now?



10) What was our community like in Victorian times?

9) Who was Samuel Wilderspin and how did he help to change schools?

8) What did children do in a Victorian classroom and how did it feel?

7) What do people who went to Victorian schools say about their experiences?

6) What was it like to go to school in Victorian times?

5) What were Victorian schools like?

4) When was the Victorian era and what was life like for people during the Victorian times?

3) Who are the special people in our school and what do they do?

2) What important events have happened in our school?

1) How can we talk about things that happened a long time ago or just yesterday?

Year 2 - Magnificent Monarchs



Overarching Question – Who has been the most significant monarch in British history?

12) What did Queen Elizabeth II do during her reign and why was she important?

11) What changes happened during Queen Victoria's long reign?

10) Why is Elizabeth I remembered as one of our most important queens?

9) What did Henry VIII do as king, and were his choices good or bad?

8) How were people organised in society during William the Conqueror's time?

7) What did William the Conqueror do that changed England?

6) Why was Alfred the Great an important king?

5) Who were some of the most important kings and queens in history, and when did they rule?

4) What do royal portraits tell us about kings and queens?

3) Where do kings and queens live, and why are these places important?

2) How has the power of kings and queens changed over time?

1) What do the words year, decade and century mean when we talk about history?

Year 2 - Movers and Shakers

Overarching Question – Who helped to influence the way our world is today?



12) What was Emmeline Pankhurst's viewpoint on women's rights, and how did she try to bring about change?

10) Which activist do you think had the biggest impact, and why?

8) Why was Neil Armstrong's trip to the Moon so important?

6) Which explorer do you think was the bravest, and what did they do that made them special?

4) If you had to choose, who would you say is the most important person from history, and why?

2) How did the person you learned about in this lesson help people, and why was that important?

13) How did Rosa Parks' actions help change segregation rules, and why were they significant?

11) Can you arrange these activists in the order they made their significant contributions?

9) How did the way explorers travel change from Columbus to Armstrong?

7) What did Christopher Columbus discover, and why was it important?

5) Can you put these people in order from the one born first to the one born last?

3) Can you sort these people into groups? What do you think makes them belong together in each group?

1) Who is your favourite person from history, and why do you think they are important?

Year 3 - Emperors and Empires

Overarching Question – How did the Roman invasion of Britannia change peoples' lives?



14) Why did the Romans leave Britain, and what do you think happened to the people after they left?

13) How did Roman towns change the way people lived in Britain?

12) What do the Vindolanda tablets tell us about life in a Roman fort?

11) Why couldn't the Romans take over Scotland like they did in England and Wales?

10) Why did Boudicca fight against the Romans, and how do you think her people (the Celts) felt about Roman rule?

9) What changed in Britain after the Romans finally conquered it in AD 43?

8) Why did Julius Caesar try to invade Britain, and what happened because of it?

7) How did the structure of the Roman army help it become so powerful and successful?

6) Which Roman emperor do you think made the biggest difference to the empire, and why?

5) How do you think people's lives changed when the Roman Empire took over new places?

4) Why might different people tell different stories about how Rome began?

3) Which account on the findings of Rome do you think is more reliable and why?

2) What was life like for ordinary people living in a Roman town, and how does it compare to life today?

1) How do we know when the Romans came to Britain, and why is it important to remember those dates?

Year 3 - Through the Ages

Overarching Question – How did life change across prehistoric Britain?



14) How did the Roman invasion change life in Britain and end the Iron Age?

13) Why might the descriptions of Celtic warriors by Roman invaders be unreliable?

12) What made hillforts a good place for Iron Age people to live?

11) How did efficient farming in the Iron Age improve people's lives?

10) How did the discovery of iron change life for people in the Iron Age?

9) What do you think caused the end of the Bronze Age, and how did it change life in Britain?

8) What did the burial of the Amesbury Archer tell us about Bronze Age life and beliefs?

7) How was life in the Bronze Age different compared to the Stone Age?

6) How did the Beaker folk change life in Britain with their new ideas and skills?

5) What caused the end of the Stone Age, and how did life change after that?

4) What were Stone Age monuments like, and why did people build them?

3) Why is Skara Brae an important place for learning about how people lived in the Stone Age?

2) How did life in the Stone Age change when people started farming and making new tools?

1) What do BC, AD, BCE, and CE mean, and how do they help us put events in order?

Year 4 - Ancient Civilisations



Overarching Question – What were the similarities between life in Anglo-Saxon Britain and Ancient Egypt?

11) Who was Tutankhamun?

10) What was the role of a pharaoh in Ancient Egypt?

9) What roles did different people have in Ancient Egypt?

8) What did Ancient Egyptian cities look like?

7) What did the Egyptians do?

6) What roles did different people have in Ancient Sumer?

5) What did Ancient Sumerian city states look like?

4) How did Ancient Sumerian inventions help them?

3) How did Ancient Sumerians farm and grow crops?

2) When did Ancient Sumer develop as a civilisation?

1) What is a civilisation?

Year 4 - Invasion

Overarching Question – How were the invasions of Britain by the Anglo-Saxons and Vikings different?



13) What were the causes and effects of the Norman Invasion?

12) Who was King Athelstan and why was he a significant leader?

11) Did the Anglo-Saxons surrender, or did they fight back?

10) Why and how did the Vikings raid Lindisfarne?

9) When did the Vikings first land in Britain?

8) What legacy did the Anglo-Saxons leave?

7) What was everyday life like in Anglo-Saxon Britain?

6) Why were monasteries important to Anglo-Saxon Britain?

5) Where did the Anglo-Saxons settle?

4) How did Ancient Sumerian inventions help them?

3) Who were the Anglo-Saxons and why did they invade Britain?

2) Who invaded Britain after the Roman withdrawal?

1) Why did the Romans leave Britain?

Year 5 - Dynamic Dynasties



Overarching Question – What were the greatest achievements of Ancient China?

12) What were the greatest achievements of Ancient China?

11) How did the bronze age in Ancient China compare to Egypt and Britain?

10) Why did the Shang Dynasty fall and who was to blame?

9) Who was Fu Hao and why was she significant?

8) Why were the people in the Shang Dynasty such successful warriors?

7) What was everyday life like in the Shang Dynasty?

6) What roles did different people have in Ancient China?

5) Why was bronze significant in the Shang Dynasty?

4) What were the religious beliefs of the Shang Dynasty?

3) What were oracles bones and why were they important in Ancient China?

2) What did the dig at Yinxu tell us about the Shang Dynasty?

1) What were the dynasties of Ancient China?

Year 5 - Groundbreaking Greeks



Overarching Question – What were the similarities between life in Ancient Greece and Ancient China?

14) Who was Alexander the Great, what did he achieve and how did he influence the wider world?

13) What were the arts like in Ancient Greece and why was it so significant?

12) How have the ancient games influenced our contemporary event?

11) What theories and discoveries made by the ancient Greeks do we use today?

10) What is a philosopher and how did they influence people?

9) Who were the most significant people to live in Athens?

8) What was the significance, impact and legacy of power in ancient Greece?

7) What was democracy like in Athens and how did it impact citizens?

6) Why were city states significant and how did they influence the way that people lived?

5) What was different between life in the Dark Age and life in the Archaic period?

4) Why did the Dark Age and Archaic period begin in Ancient Greece?

3) How is the Mycenaeans civilisation different to the Minoan civilisation?

2) What was life like throughout the Minoan civilisation?

1) What are the six periods in ancient Greek history and where do they fit on a timeline?

Year 6 - Britain at War



Overarching Question – What were the causes and effects of World War 1 and World War 2?

14) How did the decisions of leaders change the direction of the Second World War, and what similarities or differences can you find in their beliefs or actions?

12) Why was the Battle of Britain a turning point in the Second World War?

10) How did Britain's experiences in the First World War help them better prepare for the Second World War?

8) Why did the peace after the First World War not last? What were the causes of the Second World War, and which do you think was the most significant?

6) Which event during the First World War do you think was the most important, and how did it change the course of the war?

4) Why did Germany's plan to quickly defeat France fail, and what were the consequences of fighting on two fronts?

2) Which cause of the First World War do you think was most significant, and why?

13) How did the Nazi occupation and antisemitism change Anne Frank's life, and why is her story still important today?

11) Why do you think Germany's invasion of Poland in 1939 led to the start of the Second World War?

9) How were the alliances and leaders of the Second World War different from those in the First World War, and why were these international connections important?

7) What were the causes of the end of the First World War, and how did the Treaty of Versailles affect Germany in the years that followed?

5) What was life like for soldiers in the trenches during the First World War, and how can we tell if the sources we use are reliable or biased?

3) Why did so many men choose to volunteer for the First World War, and how do we know that some sources might be biased?

1) What is war? How do abstract terms like "conflict," "resistance," and "victory" help us understand the different parts of war?

Year 6 - Maafa



Overarching Question – How did Europe influence transatlantic slavery?

14) Why was the Race Relations Act of 1965 important, and how did it help fight racism in Britain?

13) How did people from the British Empire contribute to Britain in the 20th century, and what challenges did they face?

12) How did European countries take control of Africa, and how did it affect African people?

11) What challenges did formerly enslaved people face after slavery was abolished?

10) What actions helped bring an end to slavery in Britain?

9) How did Britain benefit from enslaving African people?

8) How did enslaved people show resistance, and how did this help bring an end to slavery?

7) How did the slave trade affect the lives of the people who were captured and enslaved?

6) What was the triangular slave trade, and how did it work between Europe, Africa and the Americas?

5) What role did Britain play in the transatlantic slave trade, and why does it matter today?

4) Why did Portugal and Spain explore Africa, and what were the consequences?

3) What do we know about life in the Kingdom of Benin, and why was it historically important?

2) What made ancient African kingdoms like Mali or Benin strong and successful?

1) Why are abstract terms like empire, enslavement and resistance important in history?