



Progression of Skills in History

	Nursery	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Chronologi cal Understan ding	 Ordering events from a story or activity: first, then, finally. Observe changes in themselves over time. Begin to make sense of their own life story and their family's history 	 Sequencing, noticing changes over time, ordering images of events / activities. Observing and noticing changes in their lifetimes. Compare and contrast characters from stories, including historical figures. 	* Sequence events in their life * Sequence 3 or 4 artefacts from distinctly different periods of time * Match objects to people of different ages	* Sequence artefacts closer together in time - check with reference book * Sequence photographs etc. from different periods of their life * Describe memories of key events in lives	* Place the time studied on a time line * Use dates and terms related to the study unit and passing of time * Sequence several events or artefacts	* Place events from period studied on time line * Use terms related to the period and begin to date events * Understand more complex terms eg BC/AD	* Know and sequence key events of time studied * Use relevant terms and period labels * Make comparisons between different times in the past	* Place current study on time line in relation to other studies * Use relevant dates and terms * Sequence up to 10 events on a time line
Range and Depth of Historical Knowledge	 Start to understand the concept of the past through personal experiences - telling news, etc. Show an interest in different occupations 	Comment on images from the past. Recognise that some things were different in the past. Retell things they did in the past.	* Recognise the difference between past and present in their own and others' lives * They know and recount episodes from stories about the past	* Recognise why people did things, why events happened and what happened as a result * Identify differences between ways of life at different times	* Find out about everyday lives of people in time studied * Compare with our life today * Identify reasons for and results of people's actions * Understand why people may have wanted to do something	* Use evidence to reconstruct life in time studied * Identify key features and events of time studied * Look for links and effects in time studied * Offer a reasonable explanation for some events	* Study different aspects of different people - differences between men and women * Examine causes and results of great events and the impact on people * Compare life in early and late 'times' studied * Compare an aspect of lie with the same aspect in another period	* Find out about beliefs, behaviour and characteristics of people, recognising that not everyone shares the same views and feelings * Compare beliefs and behaviour with another time studied * Write another explanation of a past event in terms of cause and effect using evidence to support and illustrate their explanation * Know key dates, characters and events of time studied
Interpretat ions of History	Spend time looking at events or activities they have been involved in. What do they remember? Do other people remember the same things as you?	 Talk about family and community. Explore through stories that some people have different memories of events. 	* Use stories to encourage children to distinguish between fact and fiction * Compare adults talking about the past – how reliable are their memories?	* Compare 2 versions of a past event * Compare pictures or photographs of people or events in the past * Discuss reliability of photos/ accounts/stories	* Identify and give reasons for different ways in which the past is represented * Distinguish between different sources — compare different versions of the same story * Look at representations of the period – museum, cartoons etc	* Look at the evidence available * Begin to evaluate the usefulness of different sources * Use text books and historical knowledge	* Compare accounts of events from different sources – fact or fiction * Offer some reasons for different versions of events	* Link sources and work out how conclusions were arrived at * Consider ways of checking the accuracy of interpretations – fact or fiction and opinion * Be aware that different evidence will lead to different conclusions * Confidently use the library and internet for research





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Historical	Use "I wonder"	 Use books, pictures 	* Find answers to	* Use a source –	* Use a range of	* Use evidence to	* Begin to identify	* Recognise primary
Enquiry	questions to show	and the internet to	simple questions about	observe or handle	sources to find out	build up a picture of a	primary and	and secondary sources
	interest in the past.	find out about things	the past from sources of	sources to answer	about a period	past event	secondary sources	* Use a range of
	 Ask parents what 	in the past.	information e.g.	questions about the	* Observe small	* Choose relevant	* Use evidence to	sources to find out
	they were like when	Use "I wonder"	artefacts, (see 4a)	past on the basis of	details - artefacts,	material to present a	build up a picture of a	about an aspect of
	they were babies.	questions to ask		simple observations.	pictures	picture of one aspect	past event	time past
		questions about the			* Select and record	of life in time past	* Select relevant	* Suggest omissions
		past.			information relevant	* Ask a variety of	sections of	and the means of
		 Ask adults about 			to the study	questions	information	finding out
		what things were like			* Begin to use the	* Use the library and	* Use the library and	* Bring knowledge
		in the past.			library and internet	internet for research	internet for research	gathered from several
					for research		with increasing	sources together in a
							confidence	fluent account
Organisati	Communicate their	Communicate their	Communicate their knowledge through:		* Recall, select and organise historical		Select and organise information to produce	
on and	ideas through speech,	knowledge through	Discussion Using ICT		information		structured work, making appropriate use of	
Communic	model making and	drawings, labels, models	Drawing pictures	Making models	* Communicate their knowledge and		dates and terms.	
ation	drawing.	and speech.	Writing	Drama/role play	understanding.			