



# History



## What are we learning to do?

In History we are learning to analyse a wide variety of evidence or *clues* from the past. These clues may be video clips, pictures, artefacts or writing and are the keys to unlocking our understanding of the past.

## What skills are we learning to use?

While studying history we are developing our inference skills. History is like a giant jigsaw puzzle which has missing pieces. As a result, as budding historians, our children will learn to look at the available evidence and infer information; for example by looking at where an artefact was discovered can be a vital clue to understanding what it was used for.

However, in Key Stage 2 children will also need to analyse the validity of evidence; for example just because someone wrote about an event in their diary does that make this information accurate? Children need to understand the concept of bias and how this can be overcome by looking at a range of sources.

## When do we learn?

We follow the Cornerstones Curriculum and as a result each termly topic has a subject focus. If that focus is History this subject forms the foundation for all work completed during that term. For example, during the Year 3/4 topic *I am warrior!* all work (with the exception of Maths) will focus on the Roman invasion of Britain.

## What is there in class to help me?

A timeline is displayed in every classroom to help children understand the concept of chronology. This will either be a generic timeline or one which is topic specific. If the topic focus is History a display board will also contain useful information such as keywords and their definitions.

## How do we learn?

We learn by looking at a range of sources, this can involve watching video clips, handling artefacts or reading extracts from diaries or newspaper articles.

## What if I need extra support?

Classroom tasks will be differentiated to suit the learner's needs. If a child requires extra support, they can first utilise the resources available in the lesson or in the classroom (for example, displays and timelines), ask a friend then an adult.

## What can we do at home to help?

At home History is a subject that can be dipped in and out of depending on the learner's interests. The BBC website offers a range of information, games and activities that can spark children's interests. At the top of each page is a timeline which also aids children's understanding of chronology and how different events from the past fit together:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/primaryhistory/>

## How does my teacher check my progress?

After each lesson teachers will assess whether a child has achieved the learning objective by giving them a traffic light dot. Red indicates they have not grasped the concept and need adult support, orange means they are beginning to understand, green indicates they have achieved the objective and purple signifies they have met and exceeded the learning objective. The learning objective itself will be based around a key historical event or skill which are set out by the National Curriculum and the Cornerstones topic booklets.