

History Skills Ladder

Skills ladders show the disciplinary knowledge that child will learn in the subject.



	Chronological Understanding	Knowledge and Understanding of past events, people and changes in the past	Historical Interpretation	Historical Enquiry	Organisation and Communication
F2 Secure	Past and Present ELG: Understand the past through settings, characters and events encountered in books read in class and storytelling. Speaking ELG: Express ideas and feeling about their experiences including use of past, present and future tenses.	Past and Present ELG: Know some similarities and differences between things in the past and now, drawing on their experiences and what has been read in class Understand the past through settings, characters and events encountered in books read in class and storytelling.	Past and Present ELG: Understand the past through settings, characters and events encountered in books read in class and storytelling.	Past and Present ELG: Talk about the lives of the people around them and their roles in society People, Culture and Communities ELG: Know some similarities and differences between different religious and cultural communities in this country, drawing on their experiences and what has been read in class.	Speaking ELG: Express ideas and feeling about their experiences including use of past, present and future tenses.
Year 1 Secure	Sequence some events or related objects in order. Use common words and phrases relating to the passing of time. Recount parts of stories and memories about the past. Know some things that happened to other people in the past.	Tell the difference between past and present in own and other people’s lives.	Begin to identify and recount details from the past, from sources e.g. pictures, stories	Find answers to simple questions about the past from sources of information (pictures, books, videos).	Show knowledge and understanding about the past in different ways (speaking, drawings, writing, drama).
Year 2 Secure	Order 3 or more people, events or using a given scale. Use simple historical vocabulary e.g recently, before, after, now, later, past, present. Recount changes in own life over time. Identify similarities and differences between periods.	Use information to describe the past Use information to describe differences between then and now Recount main points from a significant event in history Use evidence to explain reasons why people in the past acted as they did.	Look at books and pictures and eye-witness accounts, photos, artefacts, buildings and visits, internet relating to the past. Understand why some people in the past did things.	Look carefully at pictures or objects to find information about the past. Ask and answer questions such as: ‘what was it like for a?’, ‘what happened in the past?’, ‘how long ago did happen?’	Describe objects, people and events. Write own date of birth. Write simple stories and recounts about the past. Draw labelled diagrams and write about them to tell others about people, events and objects from the past.
Year 3 Secure	Use timelines to place events in order. Use timelines to identify changes over time (Stone Age to Iron Age). Understand that timeline can be divided into BC and AD. Use historical vocabulary e.g. century, decade.	Use evidence to describe past e.g. Houses and settlements, Culture and leisure activities, Clothes, way of life and actions of people, Buildings and their uses, People’s beliefs and attitudes, Things of importance to people Differences between lives of rich and poor Use evidence to find out how any of these may have changed during a time period. Describe similarities and differences between people, events and objects	Look at 2 versions of same event and identify differences in the accounts.	Use printed sources, the internet, pictures, photos, music, artefacts, historic buildings and visits to collect information about the past. Ask questions such as ‘how did people? What did people do for?’ Suggest sources of evidence to use to help answer questions	Present findings about past using speaking, writing, computing and drawing skills Use dates and terms with increasing accuracy. Discuss different ways of presenting information for different purposes.
Year 4 Secure	Name and place dates of significant events from past on a timeline Use historical vocabulary e.g. century, decade, BC, AD, empire, after, before, during. Divide recent history into present, using 21st century, and the past using 19th and 20th centuries. Note connections, contrasts and trends over time (between ancient civilisations)	Show knowledge and understanding by describing features of past societies and periods. Identify some ideas, beliefs, attitudes and experiences of men, women and children from the past. Give reasons why changes in houses, culture, leisure, clothes, buildings and their uses, things of importance to people, ways of life, beliefs and attitudes may have occurred during a time period. Describe how some of the past events/people affect life today.	Give reasons why there may be different accounts of history.	Understand the difference between primary and secondary sources of evidence. Use documents, printed sources, the internet, databases, pictures, photos, music, artefacts, historic buildings and visits to collect information about the past. Ask questions such as ‘what was it like for a during?’ Suggest sources of evidence from a selection provided to use to help answer questions.	Present findings about past using speaking, writing, maths (statistics), computing, drama and drawing skills Use dates and terms correctly. Discuss most appropriate way to present information, realising that it is for an audience. Use subject specific words such as monarch, settlement, invader.
Year 5 Secure	Use timelines to place and sequence local, national and international events. Sequence historical periods and understand that some historical periods overlap. Describe events using historical vocabulary e.g. century, decade, BC, AD, after, before, during, Roman, Tudors, Anglo-Saxons, Victorians, modern era. Identifies changes within and across historical periods. Describe the main changes in a period in history using historical vocabulary such as ‘Social’, ‘religious’, ‘political’, ‘technological’ and ‘cultural’.	Identify some social, cultural, religious and ethnic diversities of societies studied in Britain and wider world and differences between lives of rich and poor (crime and punishment). Give some causes and consequences of the main events, situations and changes in the periods studied. Identify changes and links within and across the time periods studied Make links between some features of past societies.	Look at multiple different versions of the same event and identify differences in the accounts. Give clear reasons why there may be different accounts of history. Know that people (now and in past) can represent events or ideas in ways that persuade others.	Use documents, printed sources, the internet, databases, pictures, photos, music, artefacts, historic buildings and visits to collect information about the past. Ask a range of questions about the past. Choose reliable sources of evidence to answer questions. Realise that there is often not a single answer to historical questions.	Present structured and organised findings about the past using speaking, writing, maths, computing, drama and drawing skills. Use dates and terms accurately. Choose most appropriate way to present information to an audience
Year 6 Secure	Use timelines to place events, periods and cultural movements from around the world. Use timelines to demonstrate changes and developments in culture, technology, religion and society. Use key periods as reference points e.g. BC, AD Romans, Vikings, Anglo-Saxons, Tudors, Greeks, Egyptians, Victorians and Today. Describe main changes in a period in history using historical vocabulary such as: social, religious, political, technological and cultural. Recall the date of any significant event studied from past and place it correctly on a timeline.	Choose reliable sources of factual evidence to describe: houses and settlements; culture and leisure activities; clothes, way of life and actions of people; buildings and their uses; people’s beliefs, religion and attitudes; things of importance to people. Identify how any of above may have changed during a time period. Give own reasons why changes may have occurred, backed up with evidence. Show identified changes on a timeline (what is Germany). Describe similarities and differences between some people, events and objects studied. Describe how some changes affect life today.	Understand that the past has been represented in different ways. Suggest accurate and plausible reasons for how/why aspects of the past have been represented and interpreted in different ways. Know and understand that some evidence is propaganda, opinion or misinformation and that this affects interpretations of history – accounts can be deliberately designed to make you view events in a certain way.	Identify and use a range of different sources of information and artefacts. Evaluate the usefulness and accurateness of different sources of evidence. Select the most appropriate source of evidence for particular tasks. Form own opinion about historical events from a range of sources.	Present information in an organised and clearly structured way. Make use of different ways of presenting information. Present information in the most appropriate way (eg written explanation/tables and charts/labelled diagram). Make accurate use of specific dates and terms.