LEARNING LIGHTHOUSE
Rooted in TRADITION, Built for TODAY.

HISTORY

Lower Key Stage 2 · Years 3–4 · Ages 7–9

TWO-YEAR ROLLING PROGRAMME

Our Lower Key Stage 2 History curriculum explores ancient societies, the development of scientific understanding and the changing lives of people across the world. Pupils build chronological knowledge, investigate evidence and consider different historical perspectives.

Our rolling curriculum

Years 3 and 4 learn together in one class. Both rolling years are designed for either age group, with appropriately differentiated questioning and historical enquiry. Children may join in either cycle and study the other the following year.

A British curriculum, thoughtfully designed for learners around the world.

ROLLING YEAR A

History · Years 3–4

AUTUMN TERM | The Indus Valley Civilisation

Children discover the cities and people of the Indus Valley, exploring homes, farming, trade, crafts, beliefs and archaeological discoveries. They consider how researchers investigate a civilisation whose writing is not yet understood.

Learning objectives: Locate and sequence an ancient civilisation; describe aspects of everyday life and trade; interpret artefacts and settlements; and distinguish historical evidence from informed conjecture.

SPRING TERM | Fossils, Palaeontology and Early Humans

Pupils explore Earth's distant past through the history of fossil discoveries. They encounter pioneering investigators, including Mary Anning, William Buckland and Charles Darwin, and examine changing ideas about prehistoric life and early humans.

Learning objectives: Understand the contributions of important investigators; interpret fossil evidence; use chronological thinking across long timescales; and explain how discoveries develop knowledge.

SUMMER TERM | London Through the Ages

Children trace London's development from Roman Londinium and Anglo-Saxon Lundenwic through Norman, medieval, Tudor and Victorian times to the modern city. Landmarks, maps and historical accounts bring change over time to life.

Learning objectives: Sequence significant periods in London's history; investigate social and technological change; compare past and present; and use buildings, maps and records as historical sources.

History · Years 3–4

AUTUMN TERM | The Shang Dynasty of Ancient China

Pupils investigate one of China's earliest recorded dynasties, discovering its cities, social hierarchy, kings, beliefs, warfare and artistic achievements. Oracle bones, bronze objects and Lady Fu Hao's tomb provide vivid historical evidence.

Learning objectives: Place the Shang Dynasty in time and place; explain features of society and kingship; recognise cultural and technological achievements; and draw conclusions from archaeological sources.

SPRING TERM | The Second World War

Children explore the causes and major events of the Second World War, including the Blitz, evacuation, the Home Front, wartime messages, codebreaking and the end of the conflict. They learn sensitively about Anne Frank, persecution and remembrance.

Learning objectives: Build chronological understanding of global conflict; recognise the experiences of civilians and children; interpret letters, images and other evidence; and explain the importance of remembrance.

SUMMER TERM | The Kingdom of Benin

Pupils encounter the history of the Kingdom of Benin in present-day Nigeria, exploring its rulers, Benin City, trade, social organisation, storytelling, beliefs, art and everyday life. They also examine the British conquest of 1897 and its consequences.

Learning objectives: Describe the organisation and achievements of a West African kingdom; interpret artefacts and oral traditions; recognise different perspectives; and explain significant historical change.

Our approach

History is taught live on Mondays through timelines, historical images, maps, guided discussion, source investigation and interactive questioning. Years 3 and 4 study the same themes with different levels of challenge. The programme is informed by the English National Curriculum and includes international and interdisciplinary historical studies; it is not presented as complete statutory KS2 History coverage.

Rooted in Tradition, Designed for Today.