

Progression of Knowledge in History – St John's Frome



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Big Idea Definitions		Some things have changed a lot through time, whilst other things have continued as they are for many years. Everyday life encompasses things like food, work, clothes, homes, art, music, games, sports, childhood and education. What was the same and what was different for most people?	Many significant people and events have changed the course of history. Legacy describes the lasting changes that have occurred because of the actions of significant people in the past or as a result of a significant event.	In most societies, a few people hold a lot of power and can make changes that affect everyone. A hierarchy is like a ladder or pyramid which shows the most influential and powerful people at the top (like an emperor or monarch) and those with the least say at the bottom (like peasants or slaves).	When one group of people arrives to take over the land of another group of people, often by force, this is an invasion. When a group of people arrive into unclaimed land and begin to make their homes there, they are settling in the land. The British Isles have seen many different groups of people settle and invade throughout history.	
KS1 Yr A	The History of Flight	Elements of everyday life have changed during the lifetimes of the adults who they know. People have wanted to fly for centuries, but it was a very difficult and dangerous thing to achieve. Easy access to flight changed people's view of the world and allowed them to travel more easily for holidays.	Pioneers are people who are prepared to take risks in order to leave a legacy. The Montgolfier Brothers were the first people to create a successful flying machine – the very first hot air balloon in 1783. Another pair of brothers, The Wright Brothers, created an aircraft capable of the first powered human flight in 1903. Amelia Earhart was the first woman to cross the Atlantic Ocean, empowering women and laying the foundations for the opening up of flight to all.	To begin with, flight was the preserve of the rich, as technology improved and jumbo jets were created, the possibility to fly became accessible to almost everyone.		Older members of the community who can discuss their first experiences of travel on an aeroplane. Photographs, film footage and video clips showing early flying machines and the development of modern aircraft.
	The Great Fire of London	Houses were made of wood and wattle and daub, which contributed to the spread of the fire. Houses from this time had jetties, meaning that they were much closer together than modern houses. There was no standing fire service and firefighting equipment was very basic.	London was forever changed as a result of the fire in 1666. Samuel Pepys wrote a very famous diary about his experiences during the Great Fire of London. Sir Christopher Wren was an architect who is best known for rebuilding St Paul's Cathedral after the Great Fire destroyed the original.	Some areas of London were poor and had low quality housing that contributed to the spread of the fire, which started in Pudding Lane. The fire affected people who were rich and poor. The King was concerned that the fire may spread to the Tower of London.		Copies of Samuel Pepys original diary entries with transcriptions into simplified language. Maps of London before and after the Great Fire to compare with maps of London today.
	Healthcare Heroes	In the past, sick and injured people were treated on the floor in crowded, dirty environments. Today, hospitals are clean places with sanitary conditions. The NHS was created to enable people to have free access to healthcare in the United Kingdom.	Florence Nightingale and Mary Seacole were both nurses who treated British soldiers during the Crimean War. Florence Nightingale left a legacy on modern nursing by helping to raise the awareness of the importance of hygienic conditions and increased levels of care. Mary Seacole left a legacy by overcoming racism in the world of nursing, leading to greater equality. Aneurin Bevan is known for helping to set up the NHS in 1948.	Florence Nightingale had support and funding from the British government, whereas Mary Seacole had to pay for her own travel because she was a black woman. The NHS means that people could access healthcare for free for the very first time.		Photographs, letters and other historical sources relating to Florence Nightingale, Mary Seacole and Aneurin Bevan. Newsreel footage of those visiting the NHS for the first time.

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KS1 Yr B	The History of Toys	Elements of everyday life have changed during the lifetimes of the adults who they know. Children have always played with toys but these have changed over time. Toys from the past are historical artefacts which tell us about what life was like during this time. Toys in the past were made of more natural materials compared to today's plastic toys.	Some people have had a significant impact on history because they have changed the world. Ole Kirk Christiansen was a Danish carpenter who invented Lego in 1932 having a significant impact on children's toys.	Poor children often made their own toys, whereas rich children had access to carefully crafted, more expensive toys.		Older members of the community who can discuss the toys they played with in the past. Examples of toys and games from the past, including collections from local museums.
	Castles	Castles contained whole villages; many contained homes, workshops, stores, chapels and accommodation for soldiers. Rich people could show their wealth by what they wore, where they lived and what they ate. Most of the poorer people in castles ate very basic food and lived simply. Castles were built to defend a family and their land in times of war. We don't live in castles today because we are living in a period of peace.	Many castles are still around today. You can visit local castles in Nunney or Farleigh Hungerford. Medieval banquets are a lot like our parties today, they would have food, music and dancing. Many of the foods are similar to what we eat today, though some are very different! We don't live in castles today because we are living in a period of peace.	Although people other than kings lived in castles, there was a hierarchy. Different people lived and worked in a castle, everyone had a role and most were under the authority of the lord and lady of the castle. Wealth and status affected daily life within the castle. The richest and most important people lived in the largest, safest and most comfortable rooms, while servants and workers had much simpler living conditions.		A visit to a local historical castle. Experimental archaeology activities, such as taking part in a medieval banquet, to explore food, customs and daily life. Medieval recipes.
	Who Invented the Holidays?	Holidays, both in the past and today, provide time away from work or school for rest, recreation and spending time with family and friends. Long ago, people did not have holidays – travel was difficult, slow and expensive. Many children would have spent their free time working doing casual labour or seasonally working on farms. More people can now go on a holiday than in the past. Modern travel methods are quicker and more comfortable than travel in the past.	In the 1840s, Thomas Cook organised the first package holidays, making travel more affordable and accessible. he development of railways transformed journeys, allowing more people to visit new destinations, including the seaside. During the Victorian period, seaside holidays became popular. Victorian seaside traditions, such as promenades, piers and family entertainment, continue today. In 1936, Billy Butlin created the first holiday camp, influencing the style of family holidays enjoyed today.	In the days of castles, nobody had holidays. First of all, rich people started to travel and explore the world. During the Victorian era, improved transport and changing working conditions made holidays more affordable and accessible for ordinary working families, allowing far more people to enjoy time away from home.		Posters and leaflets from the age of Thomas Cook, Billy Butlin and holiday camps today. Photographs and engravings of early rail travel and its impact on tourism. Older members of the community who can share memories of holidays from their childhood, helping pupils identify similarities and differences between holidays in the past and today.

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KS2 Yr A	The Stone Age and Bronze Age	In the Early Stone Age people lived a nomadic lifestyle. As the Stone Age progressed, people began to gather in settlements and farming began. Human communities could achieve more by working together. Technology was limited to tools made of stone.	The Beaker People brought bronze to the UK. In the Bronze Age, humans began working metal for the first time, providing tools that were much more efficient and long-lasting. The Amesbury Archer was a Bronze Age man, buried with a range of artefacts that can tell us more about Bronze Age life.	Those with the best technology held the most power in early societies. New technology such as bronze revolutionised tools and weaponry. The grave goods of the Amesbury Archer tell us that he must have been wealthy and powerful.	Settlements, such as Scara Brae, began in the Stone Age. Invasion can have benefits – The Beaker People brought with them the secret of making bronze.	Photographs of artefacts found buried with the Amesbury Archer. 3D models of the remains of Skara Brae.
	The Ancient Egyptians	Everyday life in the ancient Egyptian times varied greatly depending on your social class. Life as a slave was the most challenging. People believed in a multitude of Gods. The Egyptians relied heavily on farming and trade. They developed a variety of farming technology along the Nile. Pharaohs were the leaders of Ancient Egypt. They were thought to be able to talk to the Gods. After their deaths, they were mummified and placed into tombs in accordance with their religious beliefs.	The Pharaohs of the Old Kingdom built the Pyramids of Giza. These still survive today and are reminders of what a powerful civilisation the Egyptians were. Howard Carter discovered the tomb of Tutankhamun in 1922 – This is one of the most intact examples of Egyptian burial practices.	Ancient Egypt had a clear 'Social Pyramid'. The Pharaohs were at the top and slaves at the bottom. Skilled craftsmen and farmers were in the middle. Life as a slave was challenging, but a life that many people chose to escape poverty.	The Egyptian Kingdom spread along the route of the Nile. Trade helped to make the Egyptian kingdoms richer.	Artefacts and experiential learning activities from an Ancient Egypt workshop or school visitor experience. Photographs of artefacts from ancient Egyptian times, particularly those related to mummification.
	The Ancient Greeks	Ancient Greece was divided into separate city states. Everyday life differed in each of these states. In Athens, people experienced the concept of Democracy for the first time. In Sparta, people were ruled by one leader and life was more focused towards battle. The ancient Greeks believed in a variety of different Gods. They used myths to help understand the world. Greeks believed that they would go to the underworld when they died.	Ancient Greek Gods and Goddesses directly influenced the Roman belief system. We are still aware of some of these Gods today, such as Zeus, the King of the Gods. The Athenian democratic system directly influenced the foundation of our democracy in the United Kingdom today.	Hierarchy and power depended on the city state in which a person lived. In Athens, people voted democratically – a concept that influences our life in the United Kingdom today. All free men were able to attend an Assembly and discuss issues that affected them before voting on the outcome. The Greek Gods were a big (and often dysfunctional) family, who were ruled by their leader, Zeus.	The city states of Ancient Greece traded freely with one another but often fought fiercely. Ancient Greeks relied heavily on boats for trade and conquest. Their military boats were known as Triremes.	Written and visual sources describing Greek triremes (warships used by the ancient Greeks). Photographs of artefacts linked to Ancient Greek religion, mythology and beliefs about the afterlife.

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KS2 Yr B	The Roman Invasion of Britain	In the Iron age, people began to settle into villages. Homes were built from wood, wattle and daub, and everyday life centred on agriculture and caring for livestock. The Roman invasion brought significant changes to daily life. New towns, roads and public buildings were constructed using durable materials such as stone and tile. The Romans introduced innovations including underfloor heating, public baths, aqueducts and sewer systems, improving comfort, sanitation and standards of living.	The Romans introduced many inventions we still benefit from today, including the calendar, underfloor heating, sewer systems and running water. Roman roads were built straight and built well. Many are still used as roads today to connect towns. The Romans founded Londinium (modern day London) and built Hadrian's Wall. Boudica's resistance against Roman rule has made her symbol of courage and the fight for freedom.	The Roman Empire became one of the most powerful empires the world has seen. It was governed from Rome by an emperor. The emperor made all the big decisions. The Roman army was powerful and was used to conquer and control invaded countries. Better engineering, weapons, armour and military tactics gave the Romans a significant advantage over many of the peoples they fought, including the Celtic tribes of Britain.	During the Iron Age, many communities built hill forts to defend their settlements. These forts were made of wood and built atop hills. The Romans invaded Britain in AD 43. Although many Celtic tribes resisted, some leaders chose to accept Roman rule and became part of the Roman Empire. The Roman army was powerful, well equipped and well trained. Roman weapons and armour gave them a strong advantage. Roman soldiers used their shields to protect them in special formations such as the <i>testudo</i> (tortoise).	Letters from soldiers at Vindolanda (near Hadrian's Wall). Photographs of surviving Roman buildings and infrastructure. Maps showing Roman cities and roads. Modern re-enactments demonstrating Roman military equipment and battle formations.
	From Sand to Stars	Baghdad was built as a circular city, which symbolised unity and power. People from many different cultures, languages and faiths lived, worked and traded together peacefully. Baghdad became known as the City of Learning, where books, libraries and scholarship were highly valued. Food, knowledge, people and goods travelled through the city on the silk road, enriching it.	Bagdad was founded in 762AD (Around the time of the Vikings in Britain), this period was known as the Abbasid Caliphate and the ruler (caliph) was called Al-Mansur. Many important scientific papers were written, copied or translated in The House of Wisdom in Baghdad. These left a legacy of learning that continued in Europe after the fall of the Abbasid Caliphate. Bagdad was a city of storytellers, many stories we know today such as Sinbad and Aladdin came from stories recorded in One Thousand and One Arabian Nights.	The caliph (a religious leader) held all the power and set the rules and law. He was protected by soldiers. Laws protected people from different faiths and cultures, allowing many communities to live, work and trade together within Baghdad. Scholars were respected and valued. Their knowledge and learning helped advance science, medicine, mathematics and astronomy.	Baghdad became known as the City of Peace. The Abbasid Caliphate expanded its influence through politics, trade and learning, rather than relying solely on force. The city attracted merchants, scholars and craftspeople from across Asia, Africa and Europe, helping it grow into one of the world's greatest centres of trade and knowledge. In AD 1258, Baghdad was conquered by the Mongols. The city's walls were breached and many libraries, buildings and books were destroyed, marking the end of its golden age.	Simplified extracts from contemporary accounts of visits to Baghdad. Replica qalam (reed pen) and ink to explore how scholars wrote in the House of Wisdom. Modern editions of One Thousand and One Nights. Copies of surviving scientific, mathematical and medical manuscripts from the Islamic Golden Age.
	The Vikings	Although pictured in modern media wearing horned helmets, Vikings did not wear horned helmets in battle. Vikings came from Scandinavia and brought with them their own beliefs, traditions and stories about Norse gods Some Viking writing survives, Vikings wrote using runes, which can be translated today. Vikings valued warriorship. Life was simple, but tough. Excavations in the Viking city of Jorvik (York) give historians important clues about how people lived during the Viking era.	The Vikings left a legacy in Britain, just like the Romans did. We still use many Viking words and lots of settlements still have Viking names. The Vikings had a big battle nearby where we live in Frome – The Saxons were led to victory by King Alfred the Great at the battle of Edington. The Oseberg Ship in Norway is a preserved example of a Viking Longship that you can visit today.	The Vikings were ruled by a king, who made all the decisions and helped organise Viking warriors in battle. After the battle of Edington, the Vikings and Saxons made a treaty called the Danelaw, this divided up the country and set out areas where people had to follow Viking rules. Disagreements were settled at local assemblies known as 'Things', where free people met to discuss laws, resolve disagreements and make important decisions for their communities.	The first part of Britain that the Vikings settled was the island of Lindisfarne in AD 793. Vikings travelled in longships, which were powered by both sails and oars. Their design allowed them to cross open seas and travel shallow rivers, making them highly effective for exploration, trade and invasion. Although Vikings were skilled warriors, they also became successful farmers, traders and craftspeople, establishing settlements that had a lasting influence on Britain.	Photographs of artefacts from Jorvik and the Oseberg Ship. Photographs of Jelling Stones and other surviving examples of Viking runes. Extracts from the Anglo Saxon Chronicle about the Battle of Edington.