

History Subject Statement

Intent

At Edenham CofE Primary School we instil a love of history by studying a variety of historical periods and characters chronologically, focusing not only on 'what' but also 'how' and 'why'. In allowing our pupils to become Historians, they are able to explore, ask and answer questions enabling them to develop their own historical knowledge.

Our History curriculum is delivered in a way that enables children to use their knowledge to answer big questions. In doing this they are able to understand how their environment has come to be the way it is, and how history has affected the wider world.

In making clear links between subjects, study areas and previous learning throughout our history curriculum, children will be able to adopt a philosophical view on the effect historical events and characters have had on our world, and voice their own ideas with confidence.

Implementation

Discrete History lessons are carried out from EYFS to Year 6, so that children achieve depth in their learning. We begin each new unit by introducing the Big Question which is then used as an assessment tool by revisiting it at the end of a unit to see what new knowledge and understanding the children have gained and how previous learning has developed. 'WOW' days focusing on an aspect of history covered will occur throughout the year, where the children will experience the time that they are studying. By linking learning to a range of 'Big Questions', children will have opportunities to investigate and interpret the past, understand chronology, build an overview of Britain's past as well as that of the wider world, and to be able to communicate historically. The use of questions within our curriculum allows children to apply their knowledge and to reflect on their learning, making links between previous and newly taught information and acquired skills. The cycle of lessons carefully plans for progression and depth concentrating on the historical skills and knowledge enabling children to apply their learning in a philosophical and independent manner. In the Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1, children will learn about changes in their own lives, and their family or others around them and use this to make comparisons to other aspects of history. They will find out how the past is different from the present and about significant people and events. In Key Stage 2, the children will study history from social, cultural and economic perspectives. They will acquire problem solving and practical skills while learning that evidence from the past can be interpreted in a number of ways. Each topic is introduced with reference to the chronology of previous studies (including those from previous years). Within each classroom is a working wall which is used regularly within each History lesson. These boards are used as are key learning resource and serve as a reference point for children. They are used to display key vocabulary, assessment questions, key people and to celebrate WOW work.

Impact

Children at Edenham are equipped with historical skills and knowledge that will enable progressive and transferable learning throughout their time at Edenham and beyond. Outcomes evidence a broad and balanced History curriculum and demonstrate children's acquisition of key knowledge, through questioning, written work, child-led discussion and interviewing pupils across the school about their learning. Children review their successes in achieving the lesson intentions at the end of every session and are actively encouraged to identify their own target areas. Children also record what they have learned comparative to their starting points at the end of each focus area through answering their Big Question in the form of a 2 page spread.

Historians at Edenham Primary School will:

- Demonstrate a genuine interest for this subject and fascination about discovering and learning about Britain's and the world's history.
- Study primary and secondary sources of evidence, discovering how pieces of evidence create a picture of the past, and, in upper Key Stage 2, identifying and exploring the viewpoint of the authors of written sources.
- Identify key historical concepts, including hierarchy and power, civilisation, changes over time, chronology and significance.
- Build a consistent use of historical vocabulary across the topics, due to their connected themes
- Will learn lessons from history to influence the decisions they make in their lives in the future.
- Achieve age related expectations in History at the end of each phase.