

History in the Early Years

History at Foundation Stage (Reception) is covered in the 'Understanding the World' area of the EYFS Curriculum. It is introduced through activities that require the children to think about People and Communities and The World. Topic work provides opportunities to learn about Historical concepts. For example when studying the life of the queen, the children learn social history as gain an understanding of how the lives of people change over time and who the world in which we live changes over time. These opportunities for developing concepts are similarly developed when studying Art and the lives of artists.

Early Years History helps the children develop skills in the prime areas of the Foundation Stage Curriculum such as Communication and Language. Personal, Social and Emotional Development as they discuss aspects of their own lives and that of their families as they consider their place in time.

In studying RE, the children are taught to consider their own lives and to think about how they grow and change. Children are taught to discuss their gifts and talents and to compare what they could do as babies with what they can do now. In this way the concept of chronology is developed. Placing events in RE along events in a timeline also helps the children develop this concept.

The specific area of Literacy allows the children to learn about History through stories. The children learn to understand the way that characters behave and how over time their actions and feelings may develop and change.

Children are encouraged to ask questions about when things happened and how change has occurred over time. Through science activities, children are encouraged to problem solve and to develop observational skills that allow them to see the passing of time and changes that occur.



Learning about Chinese New Year as a cultural and historical tradition and then making our own Chinese Dragon dance based on what we've learned.

A visit from the Dorset Waste Partnership as we learn about changes in our world over time and our responsibility to care for God's world, especially as we look to the future.



Learning about social history in our art work on Lowry and then using this to think about houses through history.



Sharing stories as a way to understand the sequencing of time and the children's place in time.

