



KS1 History Lesson Plan: Significant Historical Events, People and Places in Our Locality

Subject:	History (Key Stage 1)
Key Stage:	KS1
Year group:	KS1 (Year 1/2)
Duration:	60 minutes
Topic:	Significant events, people and places in our local area
Example focus:	A local hero, an important local building, or a local event (teacher to insert specific local example)

1. Learning Objectives

By the end of the lesson, pupils will:

- Know that there are important people, places or events in their own locality.
- Name at least one significant local person, place or event.
- Use simple time words (past, long ago, then, now, before, after).
- Ask and answer simple questions about the local past using pictures, stories and maps.

2. Key Vocabulary

- local
- town
- city
- village
- past
- long ago
- then
- now
- before
- after
- important
- hero
- monument
- statue
- memorial
- museum
- map

3. Resources

- Simple story or information about a local person, place or event (chosen by teacher)
- Photos or drawings of the local area (then and now if possible)
- Simple local map with key places marked
- Picture cards showing key moments or features
- Large class timeline (with “long ago” and “today”)
- Paper, crayons, pencils

4. Lesson Sequence

Starter Activity (10 minutes)

- Show a photo of a well-known local place (e.g. a statue, old building, park, or memorial).
- Ask: “Do you recognise this place? Where is it? Why might it be important?”

- Explain that today we are learning about important things from the past in our own area.

Main Teaching Input (10–15 minutes)

- Tell a short, simple story about the chosen local person, place or event.
- Show where it is on the local map.
- Place 3–4 key events or facts on the class timeline.
- Model using time words: “Long ago... then... after that... now...”
- Briefly show how we know about it (photos, stories, plaques, buildings, museums).

Pupil Activities (25–30 minutes)

Activity 1: Local History Map

- In pairs, children mark or stick a picture of the significant place/person/event on a simple local map.
- They say: “This is important because...”

Activity 2: Then and Now (if possible)

- Children look at pictures of the place/person/event “then” and “now”.
- They draw or sort pictures into “past” and “present” and explain one difference.

Challenge

- Higher-attaining pupils write one or two simple sentences about why this local person/place/event is important.

Plenary (5–10 minutes)

- Ask a few pupils to share one thing they learned about their local history.
- Revisit objectives: Can we name one important local person/place/event? Can we say why it matters?
- Add new words or ideas to the class word bank.

5. Homework

- Homework sheet: ask pupils to visit (or look at a photo of) the local place with an adult, or talk about the local person/event at home.
- They draw the place/person/event and write or dictate one simple sentence: “This is important in our town because...”

6. Assessment Notes

- Look for pupils using time words correctly.
- Check if they can name and describe the chosen local person/place/event.
- Note who can explain why it is important to their locality.