

History in the Foundation Stage- Reception



Early Years Outcomes

Children in Reception will:

Comments on images of familiar situations in the past.
Compare and contrast characters from stories, including figures from the past.

Early Learning Goal— Past and Present

Know some similarities and differences between things in the past and now, drawing on their experiences and what has been read in class.

Understand the past through settings, characters and events encountered in books read in class and story telling.



What does it look like?

Foundation stage history is part of the national curriculum’s learning objectives for developing children’s understanding of the world, so they will learn through experiences that introduce the concept of time and change. Through Understanding the World, children will be provided with opportunities to explore, observe and compare things in the past to their lives now. Their teacher may ask questions such as ‘What happened next?’ after reading a story, or ask them to sequence events/instructions. These are key historical skills that children will build on further in Key Stage One. Children in Reception are taught through a mixture of adult-led and child-initiated activities. The children’s learning is guided through their interests, individual needs and stages of development.



Key Knowledge and Skills- Children will:

- Talk about past and present events in their own lives and the lives of family members.
- Talk about events in the correct order and explore timelines
- Look at images / artefacts from the past and compare to the present.
- Use appropriate vocabulary to describe changes in time: *tomorrow, yesterday, last night*
- Look at photographs of when they were babies and talk about how they have changed.
- Sequence their daily routine.
- Identify similarities and differences between old and new toys.
- Identify similarities and differences between each other.

WOW words

- Past
- Present
- Timeline
- Artefact
- Antique
- Sequence
- Yesterday
- Tomorrow
- Then
- Modern
- Change

Key Questions

- How has it changed?
- What can you see that is different?
- What did you do yesterday?
- What are you going to do tomorrow?
- What did you do on the weekend?
- Can you order these events?
- Which happened first?
- What would come next?
- What does our timetable tell us we are going to be doing today?
- How is it the same?
- Do you think it was always like this?
- Why not?

