

Lesson ideas: London since 1930

Learning outcomes	Activities
To understand that there are many different types of evidence	Introduce children to the idea that they are history detectives, wanting to find out how life has changed in Britain since the end of the Second World War. Where could they get their information? What are the different types of historical evidence? Children brainstorm in groups, trying to think of as many different sources. They then have to sort these types by usefulness and reliability. Compile a class list of different types of evidence on the whiteboard.
To understand that each decade saw considerable changes to people's lives in Britain	Create a class time line. Give each student a specific event or year and ask him or her to create an A5 illustrated card highlighting the key event. Alternatively, give each child a penny and ask them to look carefully at the date it was issued. They then have to find out what the main events of that year were, who the Prime Minister was, etc and compile a fact file.
To understand that many changes occurred over a number of decades	Look at one specific topic or theme with the class, such as pop music, fashion, cookery, leisure, holidays or immigration. Ask the pupils what they know about the theme during the Second World War. How did it then change? Use a variety of sources, including You Tube, educational software, images and textbooks to see how much changed and what stayed the same over the decades. Explain to the students that they will carry out their own exploration of a theme of their own choice and carry out a decade-by-decade survey, exploring what had changed and what had stayed the same. Challenge them to use a wide variety of historical sources, including film, music, images and clothing. Pupils could create their own timeline of their chosen topic and present their research to the class, using PowerPoint, posters or models.