

# Local History

Historic England and Teacher's Pet have come together to bring you a collection of free resources that you can use in your local history teaching.

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Historic England



Teacher's Pet

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## Who are Teacher's Pet?

Teacher's Pet have been providing downloadable and playable educational content to early years and primary school teachers for over 14 years. We cover all areas of the curriculum and use a team of in-house teachers and designers to create engaging and memorable concepts, that the children will love.

## Why local history?

At [Teacher's Pet](#) we want to empower primary school teachers by giving them the tools they need to deliver inspiring and thoughtful lessons about the local area and its history. We believe local history teaching has such an important part to play in a child's wellbeing – helping to give children a sense of pride in where they live.

Our Local History project is designed to provide teachers across the UK with everything they need to successfully carry out a full scheme of teaching about their local area, through key enquiry questions and source led activities.

Working with [Historic England](#) gives us access to archived maps and photos for resources and information from knowledgeable local historians, as well helping us to provide the content to you free of charge.

For more information about our Local History project or to find out more about Teacher's Pet Classroom Resources, please visit our website.

# ? How has Luton changed over time?

Enquiry Question	Sources	Activities	Vocabulary
<p><b>Who were the first people to live in the area?</b></p>	<p>Sketches of examples of stone age tools found.</p> <p>19th century maps.</p> <p>Aerial Photography of Waulud's Bank.</p>	<p><b>Luton during the Stone, Bronze, and Iron Ages information PowerPoint</b> Children will learn about the early stages of life within the area of Luton from the Stone Age through to the end of the Iron Age. The PowerPoint has a focus on Waulud's Bank and why this site is significant to the area.</p> <p><b>Waulud's Bank Aerial Photography Activity</b> Children will compare a map of Waulud's Bank from the 19th century to an aerial photograph of the area today. They will analyse how the environment has changed and how life has developed.</p> <p><b>Discoveries that Reveal the Past - Artefact Analysis</b> Children can look at three examples of items that would have been found in the Waulud's Bank area. They will write about why items such as those featured are important to telling us more about the past.</p> <p><b>Extended Task:</b> What can you find out about Dray's Ditches?</p>	<p>Leagrave. Stone age, Iron age, Bronze age, encampment, artefact, hunter-gatherer, Neolithic, Waulud's Bank, The Catuvellauni</p>
<p><b>What impact did invaders have on the area?</b></p>	<p>Various records about discoveries made in Luton.</p> <p>The Anglo-Saxon Chronicle</p>	<p><b>Invaders PowerPoint Presentation</b> Children will learn about the early history of Luton and how invaders such as the Romans, the Anglo-Saxons and the Vikings played a role in the town's history.</p> <p><b>Timeline Sorting Activity</b> This activity will ask children to sort time periods and key events onto a timeline to help them secure the chronology of the time between Roman Britain and AD 1066.</p> <p><b>Roman Roads Map Activity</b> Children will research and add to a map some of the key Roman roads that influenced Luton's later development.</p> <p><b>Extended Task:</b> How were Roman roads built?</p>	<p>farmstead, Roman, Roman Empire, Watling Street, Icknield Street, Durocbrivae, Anglo-Saxons, Saxon, Angles, Jutes, River Lea, Leatun, Vikings, Domesday Book</p>



# How has Luton changed over time?

## How did the industrial revolution change Luton?

1815 and 1888  
Maps of Luton.  
  
Luton Union  
Workhouse  
photography.  
  
1905 Vauxhall  
Photographs.

### How Luton changed during the Industrial Revolution – Information PowerPoint

Children will learn a brief history of how the industrial revolution changed the city of Luton. From its humble beginnings as a hat weaving town, to its large industrial boom during the mid-19th century and the arrival of Vauxhall in 1905.

### Luton's Hat Industry – A Sewer's Complaint Poem Analysis

Children can read and analyse a poem that was published by a worker in the Luton Reporter in the late 19th century. They will use the supporting analysis sheet to answer questions about how the writer feels in the poem.

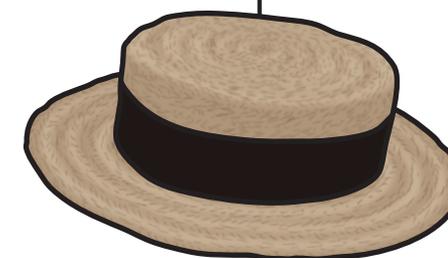
### The Hat Business in Luton Research Activity Booklet

Children can apply what they have learned about the Hat Industry with this four-page activity booklet. Within they will use map analysis skills, analyse census data, and be required to research the process of hat making to label the process. To end, they will design their own hat business advert.

### Extended Task:

What more can you find out about the Vauxhall company in Luton?

Industrial revolution, straw, straw-plaiting, manufacturers, workhouse, Vauxhall Motors Ltd, farthing, Bedfordshire



## What part did Luton play in the World Wars?

Churchill tank photograph

### The World Wars PowerPoint

Children can use this presentation to get an overview of both World Wars and the impact that they had on the town of Luton. Alternatively, the individual information texts could be used to look at each war separately.

### World War 1 Luton Information Text

Children will learn about Luton's role in the World War 1 and some of the significant contributions that the town made.

### Wardown House Hospital Letter Writing Activity

Using what they have learned about World War 1, children will write a letter as a soldier thanking the volunteer nurses that looked after them after receiving injuries during the war.

### World War 2 Luton Information Text

Children will learn about Luton's role in the World War 2 and some of the significant contributions that the town made.

World War 1, Allies, Central Powers, Bedfordshire Regiment, Stockwood Park, Biscot Mill, Wardown House, Voluntary Aid Detachment hospital, World War 2, Axis Powers, Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment,



## How has Luton changed over time?

**What part did Luton play in the World Wars?**

### **Churchill Tank Research Task**

This research task will guide children to find out about the Churchill tank built at Vauxhall in Luton.

### **Anderson Shelter Craft Activity**

This paper craft activity will allow children to learn about Anderson shelters and their importance during World War 2.

### **Extended Task:**

What were the Peace Day Riots?

Vauxhall,  
Churchill tank,  
264 Fighter Squadron,  
Operation Pied Piper, evacuation, evacuees

**How has Luton changed since the war?**

Census data from 2001, 2011 and 2020.

### **Moving to Luton PowerPoint Presentation**

This presentation will teach children about how people from all around the world have moved to Luton and helped shape the town into what it has become today.

### **Jobs in Luton Census Analysis Activity**

Children will analyse three sets of data from three separate censuses that took place in the town of Luton. They will use this data to see what they can learn about the town and how it's industries and jobs have changed over time.

### **History Defenders – Design a celebratory statue**

Children will have the opportunity to celebrate their town's rich, cultural diversity by designing a statue that will be unveiled at the great Luton carnival. Children will consider all the benefits that come from having a diverse community, living, and working together and their statue should inspire that message.

### **Extended Task:**

How has the population of Luton changed since 1945?

M1, Slip End, Crick, Irish, Scottish, Caribbean, Windrush, carnival, Indian, Pakistani, Bangladeshi, European Union, Polish, Romanian, multicultural, diverse, census, demographics, industry, employment



## How has Luton changed over time?

At the end of the local history enquiry, children should be given an opportunity to showcase their learning. Below are some ideas for how the children could present their learning about 'How Luton has changed over time.'

Create a Non-Fiction book about Luton during the war.

Build a mini-Museum.

Create a tour booklet about a hat factory.

Create a school display about Luton's history.

# Opportunities to showcase learning

Write a short story about life in a Luton workhouse.

Hold an assembly which tells the story of Luton's past.

Build a mock website about an aspect of Luton's History.

