



Q to children: Who knows what this is? [HANDS UP ETC]

Buckingham Palace, home of the Queen of England, in London. I think it's maybe the most famous historic place in the country, and it's definitely one that we want to look after.

Now, let me talk to you about history. History is big, and the history of special old places like Buckingham Palace is big! It's great to know as much as we can about the history of somewhere special, but when people are looking after historic places they need to decide what bits of it to keep exactly as they've always been, and what bits can change so that places are still useful in modern life. For example, Buckingham Palace was built hundreds of years ago and we like to keep it looking old, but the Queen does need to have modern things.

Q to children: What modern things might the Queen need in Buckingham Palace? ? [HANDS UP ETC]

So the people who look after Buckingham Palace need to decide what changes they can make to the Palace so that the Queen is comfortable, and what things are super-important to keep the same as they have always been.

It's quite tricky to decide which bits of historic places we need to keep exactly the same, and which bits we can change. I just want to spend 5 minutes with you learning how to do this. One way I think of it is as having two big bags. [CHOOSE SMALL CHILD AND GET THEM

TO WEAR MASSIVE RUCKSACK] If we were putting the history of Buckingham Palace in a bag, this is the kind of size it would need to be to hold everything. That's great, but I can't really move forward anywhere. [CHOOSE LARGER CHILD AND GET THEM TO WEAR SMALL RUCKSACK] So what we need to do is keep the big rucksack with all its interesting stuff in it, but also choose some really super-important essentials that can go in this smaller bag, which we can manage much more easily.

If you think about your own life, it's the difference between everything you own, which might take up a huge bag, and the things that you would pack if you were putting together your favourite items to carry around with you forever, which would be a smaller bag.

Now I'm going to show you some facts about Buckingham Palace and we're going to have a go at working out which are super-important and need to go in the smaller bag, and which can just go in the big bag to be kept but not carry with us all the time.

- More than 50,000 people visit the Palace each year for parties.
- George III bought Buckingham House in 1761 for a family home.
- Notice of royal births and deaths are attached to the railings.
- Buckingham Palace has 775 rooms.
- In the 19th century, the famous architects John Nash and Edward Blore made changes to change the house into a palace.
- On 22nd May 2018, The Prince of Wales will host a Garden Party.
- Buckingham Palace is 108 metres long.
- The garden has a 150 metre long flowerbed, summer house, rose garden, enormous vase and tennis court.
- The Buckingham Palace Souvenir Guide costs £5.95.



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There are 9 facts about Buckingham Palace here.

You can choose 3 of these facts to go in our 'most special things bag' for Buckingham Palace – in your talk partners please discuss which facts you would choose as the most important. Which are just interesting to you, and which have actual value to 'everybody' and need to be kept safe?

[Give them c4 minutes to discuss in partners. Call to attention then ask for suggestions of 1 fact each from various children.]

Brilliant, well done.



So just before we finish, you've already suggested some things that we might need to add to Buckingham Palace to make the Queen comfortable.

Q to children: What kind of things do you think we ought not to change about Buckingham Palace, otherwise we will be spoiling it as a historic place? What kind of things make it special?

[prompts – should we replace all these little windows with one huge glass wall so she has a better view? Should we replace the gates with a lovely modern automatic system that swings open when you press a buzzer? Should we put a roof garden with palm trees and ivy trailing down the front? Should we replace the space in front with a swimming pool? Should we decide that it's too big for her and knock half of it down?]

Brilliant, thanks everyone. I think that you now really understand how to choose the bits of historic places that are most important to remember and to look after, so now let's go into our classrooms and apply this to Warley Woods.