**Project**  
**English and History**

I love history! Remember when I turned into Historia to look at British history in *Green Line 3*? Well, if **you** want to understand history better, you must learn to ‘read’ historical sources: pictures (e.g. drawings, photos), statistics (e.g. graphs) and texts – just like I did! Start here, and at the end do a project on **Milestones in the history of New York**.

**STEP 1:** Know – Find out – Learn

Before you start a project, it’s a good idea to find out how much you already know. Try this:

**PROJECT SKILLS**

Make a **KFL grid** like this for New York and write notes under the first two headings. Then talk about what you know and what you want to find out. During your project, add any new information you find. At the end, make notes about what you have learned – about the topic and about history project work.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Know</th>
<th>Find out</th>
<th>Learn</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>K</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What do you already know?</td>
<td>What do you want to find out? Where can you find out?</td>
<td>What have you learned from your project?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**STEP 2:** Look at and describe a historical picture

This drawing of the New Amsterdam Fort (c. 1626–28) in the south of Manhattan by Joost Hartgers is one of the earliest views of the city we now call New York.

a) What does this picture show us?

b) Why do you think the picture is called “Fort nieuw Amsterdam”?

c) What can you add to your KFL grid from Step 1 now?

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1 **historical** [hɪˈstɔːrɪk(ə)] = from the past  
2 **source** [sɔːs] = texts or pictures etc. that you get information from  
3 **drawing** [ˈdrɔːɪŋ] = a picture that has been made with a pen or a pencil  
4 **statistics** [stəˈstɪstɪks] = facts in the form of numbers  
5 **graph** [ɡrɑːf] = a picture in which facts are shown with lines, bars etc.  
6 **milestone** [ˈmaɪlstɔːn] = an important event in history  
7 **fort** [fɔːt] = a strong building which keeps out enemies  
8 **c.** (circa) [ˈsɪkə] = (Latin) some time near  
9 **middle** [ˈmɪdl] = center  
10 **foreground** [ˈfɔːrɡraʊnd] = front (of a picture)  
11 **background** [ˈbækɡraʊnd] = back (of a picture)
**Understand historical statistics**

About 12 million immigrants went through the Ellis Island immigration center between 1892 and 1954. About 50% of Americans have a relative who came to the US this way.

a) What does the graph tell you about when and how many immigrants came to the US?

b) From what you know about history, why do you think they left their own countries?

c) What can you add to your KFL grid from Step 1 now?

**Historical texts**

a) When you look at a historical text, it is best to do this step by step. Listen to what one New Yorker said to a reporter after terrorists attacked the World Trade Center in 2001.

b) Is the event described clearly and correctly? Give reasons.

c) What can you add to your KFL grid from Step 1 now?

**History Skills**

1. Listen once, for gist. What is the woman talking about?
2. Listen again, more closely. Write down names of people and places, and times.
3. Write a summary in your own words.
4. Find out who recorded the text, and who for. Was it recorded for a reason?
5. What sources were used to make it?
6. Is the speaker impartial? (Compare what is said with other sources.)

**Do a project: Milestones in the history of New York**

a) Choose from one of these milestones as the topic for your project.

1. Life before the Europeans arrived
2. Early European settlers
3. The Great Fire of 1835
4. Immigration through Ellis Island
5. The World Trade Center

b) Do your project. Look for historical sources (pictures, statistics, and texts) and ‘read’ them like the ones on these pages. Make a poster for your classroom.

c) In class, talk about what you have learned – about the history of New York, and about history project work.

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12 about [əˈbaʊt] = a number near to  
13 percent ( %) [pəˈsɛnt] = per hundred  
14 low [lau] = the opposite of ‘high’  
15 steady [ˈstedi] = regular  
16 rise [raɪz] = a number that is growing  
17 fall [fɔː] = the opposite of ‘rise’  
18 summary [ˈsʌməri] = a short text that gives the most important information  
19 to record [rɪˈkɔːd] to write down; to save as audio or video  
20 impartial [ɪmˈpɜːrʃəl] = fair  
21 settler [ˈsetlə] = sb who makes his/her home on new land