

# “ทีมนักสืบอดีต ถอดรหัสบางกอก”

## Xplorer Squad: Unlock the Past



# Reading Historical Maps of Bangkok

This activity gives students the opportunity to observe, compare, and analyse maps of Bangkok from different periods to understand how the old city area has changed over time.

# Objectives

- Learn to use maps as historical evidence. Compare changes in the area across three periods:
  - c. 1887 (late early Rattanakosin period)
  - 1932 (before/after the political change)
  - 2025 (current map from Google Maps)
- Practise making observations from evidence and synthesising information collaboratively within the group.

# Activity Steps

1. Divide the class into groups and distribute three sets of maps (1887 / 1932 / present).
2. Assign each group two locations to work on.
3. Compare details from each map:
  - Are there any new roads?
  - Are the original buildings still there?
  - How has the surrounding context changed?
4. Record findings and prepare to answer guiding questions, for example:
  - How does this location reflect historical change?
  - What aspects of urban development are revealed through these changes?

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Introduction to Historical Map Reading

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# Reading Historical Maps of Bangkok

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# Activity Steps

- Each group will receive a map of Bangkok from the year 2025.
- All groups will study two assigned locations and record their observations in detail.
- They will then compare these findings with the 1932 map, noting any changes in the area, such as buildings that have disappeared or new features that have been added.
- Finally, they will analyse the 1887 map, observing how the area looked at that time and considering the historical context of that period when interpreting the changes.

# Understanding Map Symbols in Historical Maps

When studying a historical map, it is important to pay attention to the signs, symbols, and their meanings shown in the map legend. These visual codes indicate features such as roads, canals, public spaces, and specific types of buildings or land use.

By understanding these symbols, students can accurately interpret what the map represents and compare it with other maps from different periods. This skill helps in identifying changes over time and in understanding the historical context of the area.

