



## Activity Sheet - Explore your local area!

**Materials required:** Pen/pencil, reporter's notebook, compass (optional)

**Materials provided:** None. Check Val Turner's 'How to be a detective' (shelfmark 930.1) for some interesting tips when exploring!

**Method:** Explore your local village. Can you see any evidence of crofts from the past? Go exploring, note down what you see and find, giving descriptions of places or things you've seen that make you think an area was used as a croft. Think about these questions while you travel:

- Do you see any old buildings?
- What do they look like? Are they big? Are they built from stone?
- Are there any areas with stone or rubble? Do you think the stones could have been a building at one time?
- Where did you find the ruined croft/stone?
- Is it far from the sea? Is it up the hill? Is it near a stream or loch?
- Is it a sheltered area?
- What is the land like? Is it soggy, boggy or marshy?
- Or is it dry? Are there any plants growing on it?

Can you imagine what your local area might have looked like in the past?

