

Year 1 & 2 Knowledge Organiser

Castles

Glossary

Castle	A large building, typically of the medieval period, fortified against attack with thick walls, battlements, towers, and in many cases a moat.
Medieval	Period of time- 11th century until 16th century
King	Male ruler of a country. Can be husband to Queen.
Queen	Female ruler of a country. Can be wife to a King.
Lord and Lady	Important people of high rank who run and own the castles. Lords are men and Ladies are women.
Social rank	Order of importance of jobs and roles during medieval times.
Battlements	The top of the castle wall with raised sections and lowered sections to allow people to fire arrows at their opponents in battle.
Portcullis	A strong iron gate that can be raised to allow the drawbridge to be lowered.
Drawbridge	A bridge that can be lowered or raised to enter and exit a castle.
Moat	A deep ditch that surrounds a castle. It can be filled with or without water.
Turrets	A small tower built on the castle, at the corner or on top of a larger tower.
Keep	Fortified tower built within castles for defence.
Bailey	The outer wall of a castle.
Taxes	Money given to the government to help rule the country.

Key Vocabulary

Knight- a man who served the monarch as a mounted soldier in armour.



Coronation- the ceremony of crowing a King or Queen.



Banquet- an elaborate meal with many courses.



Joust- a medieval sporting contest where two opponents fight on horseback.



Monarch- the Head of the State, the King or Queen

Reign- To hold royal office and rule as King or Queen.

Armour-

Heir- the person who is legally entitled to become King or Queen after the current monarch



Important People



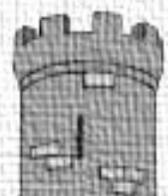
King Edward—King of England. Died and passed the crown onto Harold of Wessex but had promised it to William.



Harold of Wessex—Important person in England. Claimed the crown after King Edward died. Died in the Battle of Hastings.



William the Conqueror - Became King in 1066 after defeating Harold of Wessex at the Battle of Hastings. Came from Normandy.



By the end of this unit you will know:

- Why and how castles were built and the features of castles e.g defences
- What life was like living in a castle
- About life in different time periods e.g in medieval times

We learn about the Battle of Hastings by exploring the Bayeux Tapestry which retells the events of the Norman Conquest and the Battle of Hastings.



Did you know?

- Many castles were built during the Middle Ages (5th Century AD to 15th Century)
- Castles were **fortified** homes of important people such as Lords of the King or Queen. A castle allowed them to control the surrounding land and kept their family and riches safe. They had lots of **defences** to protect them.
- Most castles were built at the top of hills to help with their defence to the surrounding area could be seen.
- Lots of people worked in a castle doing different jobs including **knights, soldiers, craftsmen, cooks and servants.**
- Life in a castle centred around the Great Hall. This is where the Lord would eat, entertain guests, hold **banquets** and conduct business.

Roles of people

- ❖ The Lord and the Lady would run the castle and be of a high rank, often being close to the King and Queen.
- ❖ Knights were soldiers who had shown to be very brave in battle. They had a squire to do things for them.
- ❖ Squires were young men who shadowed a Knight with the hopes of becoming a knight themselves.
- ❖ The cook would make all the meals for those living in the castle.
- ❖ Stewards helped the Lord and Lady run the castle and tell everyone what they needed to do.
- ❖ The taster in the castle would have to taste the Lord or Lady's food to ensure it was good and did not have poison.
- ❖ The Chaplain was the priest in the castle's church. He would be in charge of ensuring the sermons were read and the choir boys knew their songs.
- ❖ The Musician would entertain the Lord and Lady and their guests during big feasts.

Types of Castles

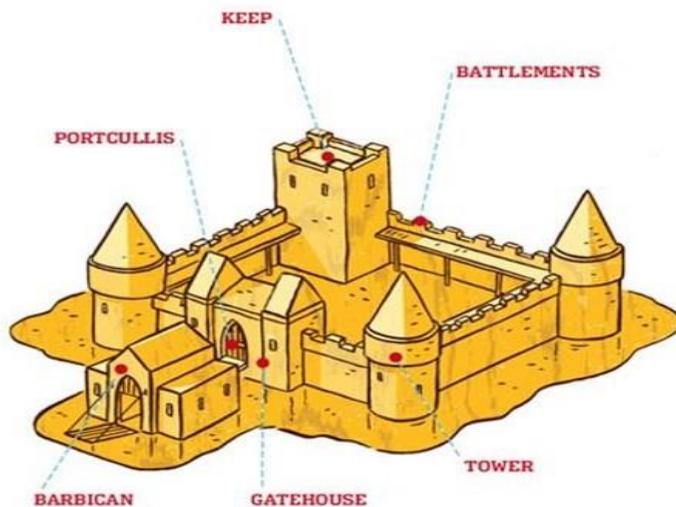
Motte and Bailey

These castles were built first because they were quick and cheap to build. King William needed castles as soon as possible to defend his new crown. They were made out of wood. It has been said that nearly 1000 motte and bailey castles were built by the Normans.



Keep and Bailey

When the rebellion against King William calmed down they were able to build Keep and Bailey castles which took longer to build and were made out of stone. Some of them are still around today, including Windsor Castle and the Tower of London.



Useful Links

<http://www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/castles/motteandbailey.htm>

<https://www.theschoolrun.com/homeworkhelp/castles>
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/z6bpm39>