



Key Vocabulary

Topic specific: Battle of Hastings, Norman, conquest, knight, castle, Harold, William, defence, strong, Bayeux tapestry, battle, change, battlements, parapet, prominent, archers, barbican, portcullis, drawbridge, bailey, moat

castle: a strong building to keep the people inside it safe from attack.

defend: to protect something

battlements: a parapet (low protective wall along the edge of the roof) that has regularly spaced square openings to shoot through

barbican: the outer defence over the gateway or drawbridge

portcullis: a strong heavy grate that can be lowered to block the gateway to the castle

drawbridge: a bridge that can be pulled up to stop people getting into the castle

moat: a deep and wide ditch around the edge of the castle that is often filled with water.

bailey: the outer wall of the castle.

Norman conquest: the invasion of people from Normandy in 1066, who took control of the country and built the first castles.

conquer: to take control by force.

Servant: a person who takes care of someone else for money

Key facts:

- The first castles were built by the Normans after they conquered England in 1066.

- Castles were built to keep the people inside safe

- The first castles were Motte and Bailey castles and they were made of wood..

- Lots of different people lived in the castle to take care of the Lord.

Key learning/activities

Stage 1: H1 Understanding chronology

-Put 1066 on the timeline.

- watch the you tube clip about the history of castles

-Build a simple timeline of how castles changed from wooden Motte and Baileys to the houses of the wealthy.

Stage 2: H2 Build an overview of world history

- Children to learn about William the Conqueror and how the castles had to be built to help the Normans take control of England.

- Look at the features of a castle (power-point) and label a diagram.

-Stage 3: H3 Investigate and interpret the past

-Look at pictures, artefacts, visit the castle to find out what life was like in the castle for different people

-Look at the evidence (visit, photos) and use it to explain the purpose of the castle.

Stage 5: H4 Communicate historically

-Children to write a description of the main features of a castle and what they tell us about the role of these buildings.

-Children to write a diary of the life of a servant in the castle and that of the Lord/Lady.

Must do

-Trip to Conisbrough castle

-Inspiration day to design and build a castle, children to recognise where to build it and the key features it needs.

Sources of support:

-You tube video about history of castles <https://youtu.be/RXXDThk3Ew>

-Shared area for power points, fact files, timeline and photographs.