

Castles



What questions would you like to answer?

As **Geographers**, we will be exploring why some castles may have been built on hills. We will be naming and locating UK capital cities and their castles. Children will be looking at maps and labelling key features of castles from an aerial view and putting them into a key.

As **Historians**, we will be finding out who built the first castles and why. We will explore Norman times and learn details about the Battle of Hastings. Children will find out about William the Conqueror and think about why castles needed strong defences.

As **Artists**, we will be drawing and painting our own castles and drawing our own tapestries from the Norman times.

As **Designers**, we will be exploring mechanisms. We will look at how drawbridges and a portcullis work and then we will design and make our own.

As **Scientists**, we will be testing materials to decide which would be best used to create a shield - we will then make our own!

Dates for your diary

11th May - ensure DT materials have been brought into school (See Year 2 DT letter)
 Thursday 19th May - Knights and Princess day
 (come dressed as a knight or princess)

Some questions we have already asked

- Why and how were castles built?
- What were dungeons for?
- Did servants sleep on the floor?
- What did people eat and drink in castle times?
- Is it true ... are there crocodiles in the moats?
- What weapons did they use in wars? How were they made?
- How did toilets work in castle times?

Reading, Writing and Maths

Subject	Reading	Spelling	Writing	Maths
<p>What we are learning this term.</p>	<p>We will be practising KS1 common exception words so we can read them by sight. These are often tricky words to sound out. In Guided Reading, we will be developing comprehension skills and retrieving answers from a text. We will also be looking at the similarities and differences between similar texts we have read.</p>	<p>We will be practising spelling common exception words as well as reading them. A list will be in Reading Records very soon to show which ones your child is practising. In addition, we will practise common spelling patterns.</p>	<p>We will be looking at how fairytales vary and inspire other stories. We will then be writing our own twisted fairytale. We will be inspired by 'Little Red Riding Hood' and 'Into the Forest' by Anthony Browne. We will also be looking at 'Jack and the Beanstalk' and 'Jack and the Baked Beanstalk' by Colin Stimpson.</p>	<p>We will be learning to tell the time, beginning with o'clock and half past the hour. We will then move onto quarter past and quarter to before looking at five minutes. We will then study measurement, length and height. We will compare various lengths and heights and measure using centimetres and metres.</p>
<p>How you can help at home.</p>	<p>Complete home learning tasks set on google classroom. Reading from their book (or any other reading material) at least 4 times a week will make a huge difference. No one is ever too old for a bedtime story either!</p>	<p>Practising a few words a week will really help. Make it fun - colourful writing, hangman, pyramid words, spelling bee competitions in the car - just a few ideas!</p>	<p>Writing shopping lists, thank you notes and cards and letters. Children could also write their own follow up twisted fairytale. Please encourage good letter formation and sensible spelling choices.</p>	<p>Practise counting in 2s, 5s, and 10s (2, 4, 6 ...). Quickly recalling Number bonds to 10 or 20 e. 3+5, 12 + 7 etc. Telling the time to the nearest 15 minutes (analogue and digital).</p>

