

The Early Middle Ages (1066- 1399)

1. The early Normans
2. The early Plantagenets
3. The later Plantagenets
4. Early medieval culture

1. The Early Normans

William the Conqueror Who were the Normans? Read all about the Battle of Hastings in 1066: write an account of the battle, draw a map of the battlefield (you could go and visit it). Why did the Saxons lose? What did William do next? Read all about the Domesday book (you could go to see it).

Borders and wars Read about the Harrying of the North in 1069 (write or narrate the story).

The Anarchy When William died his three sons fought over the throne. Who became king? What was his nickname and what happened to him? Who were Stephen and Matilda?

2. The early Plantagenets

Henry II Read about his battles in Scotland, Wales and Ireland. What does the name 'Plantagenet' come from?

Richard the Lionheart What were the Crusades? How/where did Richard die? Read the story of Robin Hood.

King John - What was Magna Carta? (you can go and see it). Read the poem King John by Hugh Chesterman.

Henry III – What happened at the Battle of Lewes?

3. The later Plantagenets

Edward I - Why did he build so many castles? Find out about some of the most famous (go and visit one). Read about the Welsh wars (who was Llewelyn ap Gruffydd and how is his name pronounced?).

Read about the Scots wars, especially about William Wallace. What happened at Stirling Bridge?

Edward II What happened at Bannockburn? Re-tell the story in your own words

Edward III Who was The '100 years war' fought between? Read about Crecy and Poitiers. Who was the Black Prince of Wales and what did he do at Poitiers?

NB 1348- 49 The Black Death killed one out of every 3 people in England. You may, or may not, like to write about it (with gory illustrations...).

Richard II - why did the the Peasant's revolt? Who was Wat Tyler? Read all about the rebellion of Henry, Duke of Lancaster (Henry Bollingbrooke) in 1399. Did he have any real claim to the throne? Do you think he was a usurper? What happened to King Richard?

4. Early Medieval culture

Abbeys (the Romanesque; the styles of Gothic, early English, decorated, perpendicular).

Books: Lindisfarne, Kells, Winchester gospels, Books of Hours, scripts and illumination and miniature.

Religious Orders: Benedictines (Cistercians - Trappists), Carmelites; Carthusians; friars - Dominicans, Franciscans etc.

Military developments What were 'motte and bailey' castles? Why did stone castles replace wooden ones? How did the Keep change over time? What is a concentric castle? Draw an example of each type of castle. Why were castles not so useful by 1400? Go and visit some medieval castles! Read about knights, foot soldiers and Longbowmen. Draw a picture of each.

List of kings 1066- 1399

William – 1066-1087

William II 1087-1100

Henry I 1100-1135

Stephen 1135-1154

Henry II 1154 – 1187

Richard I (the Lionheart) 1187- 1199

John 1199- 1216

Henry III 1216- 1272

Edward 1 1272- 1307

Edward II 1307 -1327

Edward III 1327- 1377

Richard II 1377-1399