

Aldryngton Primary School Knowledge Organiser: Who were the Normans? How were castles built? How have castles and the people who lived there changed over time?

Key Vocabulary	Definition	Key Vocabulary	Definition
Castle	A large, strong building, built in the past by a ruler or important person to protect the people inside from attack.	Coronation	A special ceremony at which a person is made king or queen.
Monarch	A king or queen.	Medieval	A time in history, the 'Middle Ages'.
Portrait	A painting, drawing, photograph, or engraving of a person.	Normans	People from Northern France who invaded England in 1066 and became its rulers.
Reign	To be the king or queen of a country.	Ruler	The leader of a country.
Royal	Being a king or queen or a member of their family.	Invade	Use force to enter.

Key figures

William The Conqueror



- William The Conqueror won the Battle of Hastings in 1066 beating King Harold and became King of England.
- William built castles throughout England in order to maintain control.
- Perhaps the most famous castle William built is the White Tower of the Tower of London.



Queen Elizabeth II is the current Queen and the longest reigning monarch ever in Britain.

Fiction linked to topic

The Queen's Hat by Steve Antony

The Queen's Handbag by Steve Antony

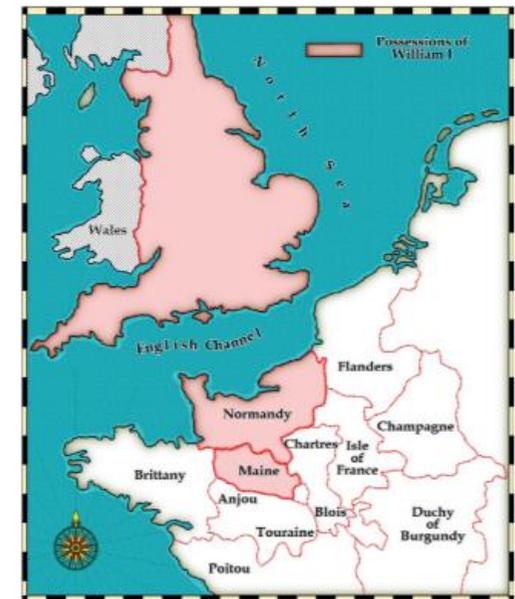
Castles by Colin Thompson

Dragon Poems by John Foster and Korky Paul

The Pea and the Princess by Mini Grey

The Paper Bag Princess by Robert Munsch

Map



Key dates

1066 – The Battle of Hastings.
1953 – Queen Elizabeth II Coronation.
2021 – This year.
2022 - The Queen will become the first British Monarch to celebrate a Platinum Jubilee, seventy years of service.

Useful websites

<https://www.rct.uk/visit/windsor-castle> – all about Windsor Castle
<https://www.english-heritage.org.uk/members-area/kids/kids-castles/> - all about castles

Windsor Castle

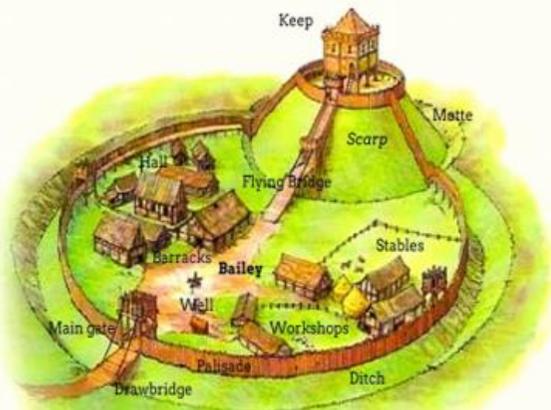


Windsor Castle is the oldest and largest occupied castle in the world. It is open to visitors throughout the year. William the Conqueror began building at Windsor around 1070. It took 16 years to build. It has since been the home of 40 monarchs. Today The Queen spends most of her private weekends at the Castle.

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, that 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.

