



Crime and Punishment



Pupils will learn

- To compare the legal system of different time periods.
- To know how and why punishments have changed over time.
- To explore how crime has changed over time and who the victims and perpetrators were.
- To have a deeper chronological understanding of the time periods.

Important facts

- Links to prior learning:
 - Romans (Yr 3)
 - Anglo-Saxons (Yr 4)
 - Normans (Yr 1)
- A crime is something a person does that is against the law. Punishment is a penalty for doing something wrong.
- **Sir Robert Peel** introduced the police force in the Victorian Era.
- The Tower of London is a medieval castle that has served many purposes. It was a royal residence, an exotic zoo, and was eventually turned into a prison. One of the most famous prisoners was Anne Boleyn, the second wife of Henry VIII.
- Capital punishment, also known as the death penalty, is still legal in some countries. Corporal punishment (causing physical pain) is also legal in some countries.
- When someone is charged with a crime they are given a 'charge sheet'. This sets out the details of the crime they are being charged with. The police will decide if they: - can go home until the court hearing - but may have to follow certain rules, known as 'bail' - are kept in police custody until they are taken to court for their hearing.
- In Anglo-Saxon times, instead of punishment – criminals had to pay the injured party compensation known as weregild.
- The Tudors introduced shaming punishments such as the stocks and the ducking stool.

Local Links

- Norwich Castle – including the dungeons
- Norwich Police Station
- Colchester Castle

Home Learning Ideas

- Create a working form of a punishment.
- Create an information book about the different crimes.
- Create a wanted poster for a criminal.
- Predict future crimes and their punishments.

Books to read at home

- Sherlock Holmes for Children (M. Williams)
- Horrible Histories Crime and Punishment
- Artemis Fowl series.
- Crime and Punishment in Britain (A. Mooney)

Inquiry Questions

- Which era had the worst punishments?
- Which era had the most crime? Why?
- Which era would you like to live in? Why?

Further Information

Key Dates:

1200 Trial by Ordeal ended.

1833 Illegal for children under 9 to work in cotton mills.

1870 crime not to send your child to school

1829 – Sir Robert Peel passed the Metropolitan Police Act and set up the first police force in London 1965

Death Penalty abolished

Key Vocabulary

Jury	A group of people who listen to all the evidence and decide if someone is guilty.	Judge	A person who is in charge of a serious trial and decides what punishment a criminal gets.
Trial	Evidence is presented and decision is made about guilt	Pillory	A punishment that meant being put in stocks so people could throw things at you.
Transportation	A punishment that meant being sent to live in America or Australia and work really hard.	Weirgeld	Compensation that was paid to a victim by the criminal.
Prosecute	To begin or carry on a court action.	Defend	To speak, write, or act in support of.
Rights	Principles in keeping with the rules of justice, law, or society.	Confinement	To be confined to a place. Similar to being in prison.
Evidence	Something that gives proof or a reason to believe.	Sentence	The outcome of crime if found guilty. Usually includes time and type of punishment.
Analysing	Looking into something with detail.	Interpretation	A different version of events or opinions.
Viewpoints	How one person might see something.	Causal factors	A factor that causes important changes. To improve state of being.

* Words in grey are Tier 2 (non-topic specific) vocabulary