



Our big question: Who would you invite into your castle?

We will be thinking about these questions:

- What is a castle?
- Why do people build castles?
- Who might live in a castle?
- What is a King? What is a Queen?
- What is a monarchy?
- What are the different parts of a castle? What do they do?
- When was Norwich castle built?
- Is a castle a kind building?
- Has the way castles are used changed over time?

Interesting Information

What are Castles?

A castle is a large, strong building built in the past by a ruler or important person to protect people inside from attack. They were both a home and a fortress.

Why were castles built?

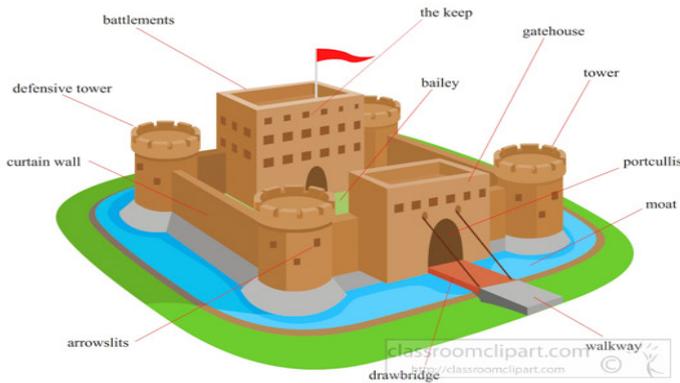
They were built to provide safety and protection from attack and to display the owner's importance and wealth.

Where were castles built and why?

Castles were often built on hilltops or surrounded by water to make them easier to defend.

Castle defence

Castle builders added many defensive features to make their castles difficult to attack. They included features such as a moat, ramparts, high walls, curtain walls, flanking towers, and battlements.



Home Learning Ideas

- Can you learn about Norwich castle? Use the internet, books, or ask your family members if they know anything about it.
- Visit Norwich castle. What can you do there? What can you learn?
- What other castles are there in our world? Can you find your favourite castle? What do you like about it?
- Can you draw your own castle? What materials could you use to make it? Why have you chosen them?
- Make your own castle!
- Make up a story about some people who live in a castle.
- Explore who might live in a castle. What might it have been like to live in a castle?

Books to read at home

- Castles by Colin Thompson
- See Inside Castles by Katie Daynes
- Castles by Maggie Freeman
- Story of Castles by Leslie Sims
- Attacking a Norman Castle by Robin Twiddy
- Castles Magnified by D Long & H Bloom
- George and the Dragon (version by) C Wormell
- Look Inside a Castle by C Mason & B Ablett
- The Castle the King Built by R Colby & Froese
- The Knight Who Said "No!" by Rowland & Hindley

Further Information - History of Norwich Castle

Before 1067	1067	1300s	1883
The area was an Anglo Saxon village.	The Normans built the castle.	The castle became a jail.	The castle became a museum

Key Vocabulary

Attack	Being aggressive towards a place or person.	Garderobes	A medieval toilet.
Arrow slits	A narrow vertical slit in a wall for shooting or looking through or to admit light and air.	Keep	The strongest or central tower of a castle, acting as a final refuge.
Bailey	The outer wall of a castle.	Moat	A deep, wide ditch surrounding a castle, fort, or town, typically filled with water and intended as a defence against attack.
Battlements	A part of the top of a wall, especially of a fort or castle, that has regularly spaced square openings for shooting through.	Motte	A mound forming the site of a castle or camp.
Curtain wall	A fortified wall around a medieval castle, typically one linking towers together.	Portcullis	A strong, heavy grating that can be lowered down grooves on each side of a gateway to block it.
Defend	Protect from harm or danger.	Siege	Shutting off essential supplies, with the aim of compelling those inside to surrender.
Drawbridge	A bridge which is hinged at one end so that it may be raised to prevent people crossing.	Turret	A small tower on top of a larger tower or at the corner of a castle.
Dungeon	A strong underground prison cell.	Well	A shaft sunk into the ground to obtain water.

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