

Knowledge Organiser

Year: 2

Subject: History

Unit: Why is Castle Rising significant to our local area?

Overview:

During this sequence of learning, pupils will study Castle Rising and look at why castles were built in the first place. They will look at how different people lived during this time and explore the evidence left behind, when visiting Castle Rising.

What should I already know?

- People in the past lived differently to how they do today.
- They used different materials in the past e.g. houses were built from wood and straw and not bricks.
- Evidence from the past helps to tell us about what life was like.

Historical Skills:

- Understand that there are reasons why people in the past acted in the way they did.
- Observe and use pictures and artefacts to find out about the past.
- Explain that there are different types of evidence and sources that tell us about the past.

What will I know by the end of the unit?

- Castles were built by the Normans to provide protection for Lords and Ladies, to avoid them being invaded.
- Castle Rising is located just down the road from our school. It started being built in 1138.
- The remains provide lots of evidence to show us what castles used to be like.
- Castles were built with many features that stopped people getting in e.g. a drawbridge, moat and portcullis. These features made it easy to defend against invaders.
- The Norman Conquest saw the Normans replace the Anglo-Saxons and take charge of England.



castles were originally built from wood before being built from stone which offered greater protection.

- There were many roles or jobs within a castle and everyone was treated differently based on how important they were.
- Those that weren't considered important such as servants had to eat leftover food and sleep on the

Vocabulary:

Castle

A large building, mainly from the Medieval period that was built to provide protection from attack.

Medieval

Period of time from the 11th Century to the 16th Century.

Lord and Lady

Important people of a high rank who run and own castles.

Battlements

The top of the castle walls with raised sections and lowered sections that allowed for arrows to be shot from them.



Portcullis

A strong, metal gate that can be raised to allow the drawbridge to be lowered.



Drawbridge

A bridge that can be lowered or raised to stop people entering or allow them in.



floor whereas the lords and ladies were treated like royalty.

- The lord and lady would run the castle and were considered the most important people.
- The servants had to do all the jobs within the castle such as cleaning, making the fires and any other jobs that the lord and lady wanted them to do.
- Towards the end of the Middle Ages, castles stopped being as effective in protecting those that lived inside from attack. This was because cannons and gunpowder had been invented meaning that the castle walls could now be destroyed allowing invaders to get inside.

Moat

A ditch filled with water that surrounds a castle.

