



The Tudors

Background Information

After the Battle of Bosworth, the War of the Roses finally concluded. Henry VII married Elizabeth of York to cement the union of the houses of Lancaster and Tudor-once and for all! This political move created a solid foundation for the newly-established **Tudor monarchy** which led to the births of some of the most famous monarchs in British history. The tyrannous rules of Henry VIII and his two daughters (Mary I and Elizabeth I) explored the absolute power of the monarch and the fear held by the people under their rule. A full reform of the church, the dissolution of the monasteries and a horrific take on what it was to punish so-called crime adds to the blood-thirsty legacy left by the Tudors in the 16th Century.

In this unit the children will learn:

- Geographical skills linked to the Tudors.
- To analyse different sources of information to form a balanced opinion.
- Comparing the life of a child in Tudor times to modern day.
- Chronology of the Tudor period.
- About crime and punishment and make links with previous learning.
- About the legacy left by the Tudors.

*Lancaster Rose**York Rose**Tudor Rose*

Timeline of Key Events:

1485: Henry Tudor invades and defeats Richard III at the Battle of Bosworth and is crowned king Henry VII.
1486: Henry and Elizabeth marry; Prince Arthur is born.
1501: Arthur and Catherine of Aragon marry.
1502: Arthur dies.
1503: Elizabeth of York dies; Prince Henry and Catherine are betrothed; James IV and Margaret – Henry VII's daughter – marry.
1509: Henry VII dies and Henry VIII becomes king. Henry and Catherine marry.
1527: Henry starts divorce proceedings against Catherine.
1533: Henry marries Anne; Archbishop Cranmer declares Henry's first marriage null; Elizabeth is born.
1536: Catherine dies; Dissolution of the Monasteries; Act of Supremacy; Pilgrimage of Grace; 'Silken Thomas' revolts in Ireland; the English Bible is approved; Henry marries Jane Seymour.
1537: Prince Edward is born; Jane dies.
1540: Henry marries and divorces Anne of Cleves; Henry marries Catherine Howard.
1543: Henry marries Catherine Parr.
1547: Henry VIII dies; Edward VI – aged 9 – becomes king.
1553: Edward VI dies; Jane Grey reigns briefly; Mary succeeds and returns to the old ways in religion.
1558: Elizabeth becomes queen with William Cecil as secretary of state.
1588: Spanish Armada is defeated.
1603: Elizabeth dies; Robert Cecil secures the peaceful accession of James VI of Scotland.

Historical Skills and Concepts:

- **Chronology** – key events in world history.
- **Questioning** – develop historical questioning skills.
- **Sources** – use a range of sources to explore our knowledge of the past.
- **Cause & Effect** – the impact of Historical events or developments.

Key People:

- Henry VII** (1485-1509-reign)
- Henry VIII** (1509-1547-reign)
- Edward VI** (1547-1553-reign)
- Lady Jane Grey** (9-day reign in 1553)
- Mary I** (1553-1558-reign)
- Elizabeth I** (1558-1603-reign)



Key facts:

-The Tudors ruled England from 1485 to 1603.

-The first Tudor king was Henry VII. He became king after the battle of Bosworth field, which ended the War of the Roses. He was followed by his son, Henry VIII, who was famous for marrying six times and beheading two of his wives! His son, Edward VI ruled after him, followed by his daughters Mary I and Elizabeth I.

-They are famous for many things, including the Henry VIII and his six wives, the exploration of America and the plays of William Shakespeare.

-During the sixteenth century, England emerged from the medieval world. It was a time of great change, most notably it marked the end of the Catholic church in England. Great naval exploits began the great English seafaring tradition.

-Life had many problems. Towns were becoming overcrowded, roads were muddy tracks and travelling was difficult. The overcrowding caused danger from fire and disease.

-During 118 years of Tudor rule, England became richer than ever before. As the country became wealthier, towns grew, beautiful houses were built and schools and colleges were set up. Arts and crafts flourished too. England was home to great painters, writers and musicians.

Key Vocabulary:

- **monarch**-a sovereign head of state (king or queen).
- **Armada**-a Spanish word for a fleet of ships in the navy.
- **execution**-to carry out a sentence of death (e.g. beheading)
- **reign**-the time period a king or queen is at the throne.
- **Scold's Bridle**-a device placed on a woman's head when she was accused of gossiping.
- **War of the Roses**-a battle which took place between two kingdoms, leading to the first Tudor king.
- **Bosworth**-a battle took place between King Richard III and to-be King, Henry VII.
- **Tower of London**-the place where all those accused of treason were held.
- **inherit**-to receive something after somebody's death.
- **heir**-someone who is in-line to receive/inherit something after a death. E.g. the king's children will inherit the throne.
- **Catholic**-the oldest and largest branch of Christianity ruled over by the Pope in Rome.
- **Protestant**-the second largest branch of Christianity that became separate from the Catholic church in the 16th century. Protestants don't have the Pope as their leader.
- **reformation**-an attempt in the 16th century to change the Catholic church that resulted in the creation of Protestant churches.

Transferable vocabulary and concepts:

culture - a pattern of behaviour shared by a society, or group of people. Many different things make up a society's culture. These things include food, language, clothing, tools, music, arts, customs, beliefs, and religion.

artefact - an object made by a human being, especially an object of archaeological interest.

legacy - something that is handed down from one period of time to another period of time.