

Castles Reading Comprehension

L.I. To read for information.



Why were they built?

There were built for important kings and lords across the continent in the Middle Ages. They all wanted to have as much land as possible which caused lots of battles and wars.

The castles were built to defend the land from their enemies!

When did people live in castles?

Around 500 to 1000 years ago, lots of castles were built across Europe. We called this time the Middle Ages.

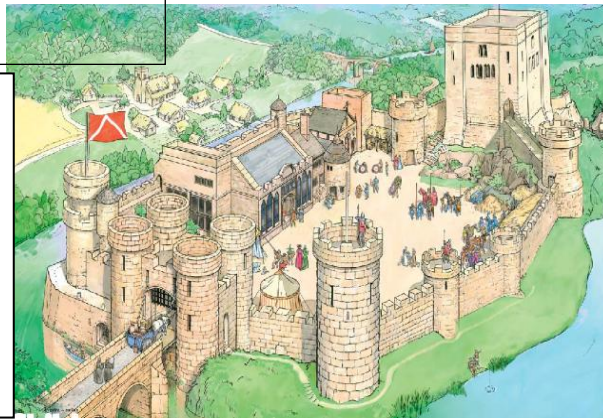
The Kitchen

In the kitchens, the servants made food.

If there was a big feast, examples of food they might prepare would be roast swan, spiced beef, mackerel and squirrel stew!

Weaponry

This room would have been used for storing weapons, armoury and shields to be used by the knights and guards.



The Dungeon

Prisoners were locked in the dingy dungeons under the castle!

The Keep

The safest part of the castle was the tallest building. This was called 'The Keep.' Guards defended the castle from here because this was where they had the best view of the surrounding land.

Did you know? Castles had thick walls to keep out invaders. Guards would walk along the walls with the spears and arrows, ready to attack any enemies.

Questions:

1. How long ago was the Middle Ages?
2. Why were castles built?
3. Which part of the castle was the safest?
4. Why do you think this area of castle was the safest?
5. What do you think the word 'dingy' means?
6. Why did the castle have thick walls?
7. Write the names of three foods that might have been served.
8. Write your own question about the text.

Challenge: Find out your own fact about castles