

# Castles



## Castles were built to:

- control the surrounding area;
- defend against attack from enemies;
- launch firepower to attack enemies.

## Fun Facts!

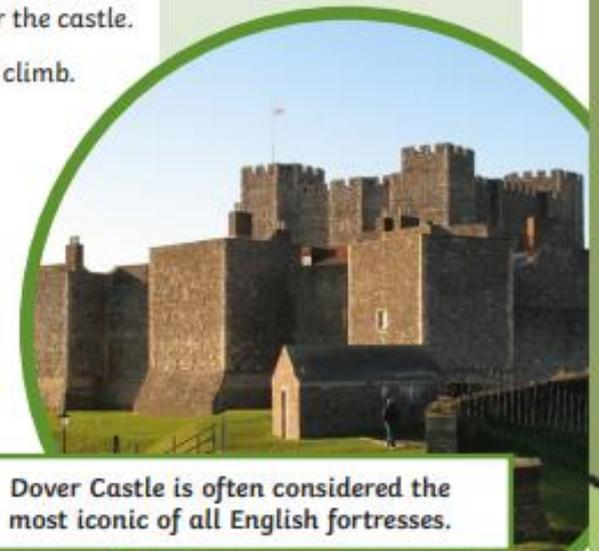
A private fortified residence of a lord or noble, such as a King or Queen, is usually called a castle. Castles have similarities with other constructions like palaces, fortresses and fortified settlements, but they are not the same. Castles have been built for around 900 years and originated in the 9th and 10th centuries. Earth and timber were originally used to build castles, but later these materials were replaced by stone. In the 12th and early 13th centuries, to make the castles better, they began including towers.

## Features of a Castle

- The main **castle gate** or **door** was hard to break through because it was usually made from thick, iron-studded wood.
- The **portcullis** was the spiked barrier which protected the doors from fire and battering. It was made from metal or wood and could be lowered by chains.
- **Moats** surrounded the castle to make it harder for enemies to tunnel underground into the castle and enemies could be spotted easily trying to swim or row across.
- As part of the gateway defences, **drawbridges** could stop enemies getting across as they could be pulled up.
- Defenders of the castle could shoot down from the tall **gate towers**.
- Castles were built on **high ground** so that defenders could have a clear view of the surrounding area.
- The steep banks of earth or rubble surrounding the castle, called **ramparts**, made it harder for enemies to climb over to enter the castle.
- The **high walls** of the castle made it difficult for enemies to climb.
- Tall, thick **curtain walls** around the castle shielded the castle from attack.
- **Flanking towers** built in the curtain wall provided good viewing and attacking platforms to defend the castle.
- **Battlements** were the tooth shaped top of the castle walls where the defenders could fire missiles through the gaps (crenels) and hide behind the raised sections (merlons).
- **Machicolations** were the stone boxes that stuck out from the walls. The holes were good for dropping stones or boiling oil on to attackers. Wooden boxes were called **hoards**.

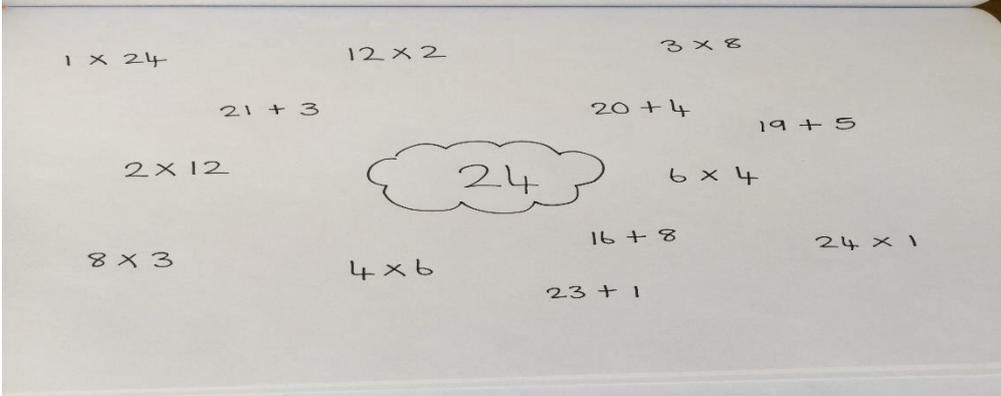
## Famous Castles

- Dover Castle
- Kenilworth Castle
- Tintagel Castle
- Bolsover Castle
- Portchester Castle
- Warkworth Castle
- Dunstanburgh Castle
- Carisbrooke Castle
- Middleham Castle
- Beeston Castle



Dover Castle is often considered the most iconic of all English fortresses.

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> April

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| <p><b>Reading Mission</b><br/>30 mins</p> | <p>Children to read or be supported to read the extract from 'Castles'.<br/><b>After they can answer these questions, these can be verbal answers or they could be written down or typed. Suggested answers are in italics.</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1) What is a castle and what type of people live there? <b>A private fortified residence of a lord or noble, such as a prince, is usually called a castle.</b></li><li>2) What is the link between castles, palaces, fortresses and fortified settlements? <b>Castles have similarities with other constructions like palaces, fortresses and fortified settlements, but they are not the same.</b></li><li>3) When were castles first built and how long have they been around for? <b>Castles have been built for around 900 years and originated in the 9th and 10th centuries.</b></li><li>4) What was the portcullis and how did it protect the castle? <b>The portcullis was the spiked barrier which protected the doors from fire and battering. It was made from metal or wood and could be lowered by chains.</b></li><li>5) What were the ramparts and how were they useful? <b>The steep banks of earth or rubble surrounding the castle, called ramparts, made it harder for enemies to climb over to enter the castle.</b></li></ol> |
| <p><b>Writing Mission</b><br/>30 mins</p> | <p>Today's writing mission (Part 1)<br/>To write the opening paragraph of your story and begin to write the middle paragraph. Don't forget to use you plan from yesterday. Quality is better than quantity.</p> <p>Skills – To use a range of sentence openers (This makes your writing more interesting ).<br/>Use a range of expanded noun phrases to describe aspects of your story in more detail.</p>   |
| <p><b>Maths Mission</b><br/>30 mins</p>   | <p>Your mission today is to complete the following investigation: Using the numbers given, complete as many equations of <b>adding and multiplying</b> to make each number eg:</p>  <p>Your numbers are</p> <p>90            48            56            28            96</p>  |

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| Topic<br>Mission | <u>Continued from day 1 and 2</u> |
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