

Year 1 Castles and Knights - History



Key Vocabulary

William the Conqueror	William The Conqueror won the Battle of Hastings in 1066 beating King Harold and became King of England.
Knight	A man who works for the Lords and Kings.
Battlement	The open space in a castle wall from which to launch weapons at the enemy.
King	Male ruler of a country.
Queen	Female ruler of a country.
Past	Something that has happened already.
Present	Something that is happening now.
Lord and Ladies	The people who lived in castles and had plenty of money.
Keep	Fortified tower built within castles for defence.
Turret	A small tower built on the castle, at the corner or on top of a larger tower.
Tower	Built into castle walls, or around the outside of the keep. They were first built square, but round towers were actually harder to destroy because they didn't have corners.
Drawbridge	A bridge that can be lowered or raised to enter and exit the castle.
Portcullis	A strong iron gate that can be raised to allow the drawbridge to be lowered.
Moat	A deep ditch that surrounds the castle. It can be filled with or without water.
Bailey	The outer wall of the castle.
Defend	Protect from danger.

Motte and Bailey

These castles were built first because they were quick and cheap to build. King William needed castles as soon as possible to defend his new crown. They were made out of wood. It has been said that nearly 1000 motte and bailey castles were built by the Normans.

