

<b>Subject:</b>	History	<b>Title of unit:</b>	Tudor Britain	<b>Year group/term:</b>	Y5 – Summer 1
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### Unit 'intent' statement:

This unit aims to give pupils a well-rounded understanding of the Tudor period of Britain's history. The unit will have a specific focus on monarchy, with some exploration into the character and achievements of Henry VIII. Children will develop a good grasp of what life was like in this period, recognising that – as with all historical periods – life differed greatly depending on your economic position and status.

### Links to previous learning

Pupils' British History journey in KS2 has followed a chronological structure. This unit follows on from the Y4 study of the Anglo-Saxons and Vikings. Children need to understand that the Tudor period of history begins around 400 years after the last British history unit children studied, and should be encouraged to consider how life changed during this time.

Helpful podcasts about the Tudors for teacher subject knowledge: <https://bit.ly/3lDpjre>

### Knowledge pupils will acquire (NC statements in bold):

- **A study of an aspect or theme in British history that extends pupils' chronological knowledge beyond 1066**

#### Lessons 1 & 2: Context and life during the period

- Know that the **Tudor period** follows the period of British history known as the 'Medieval' period. (The medieval period was between Viking Britain and the Tudors). The **Tudor reign** lasted from **1485 to 1603**. (For context, worth mentioning to children that the Great Fire of London (Y2 unit) was in 1666 – not long after this).

- Know that The Tudors were a Welsh-English family that ruled England and Wales during this time (*more on the family and how they came into power in the second lesson*).

- Know that life in Tudor Britain was harsh - the average **life expectancy** was just 35 years.

- Know that most Tudor people lived in the countryside, but some people lived in towns or big Tudor cities like London, Bristol or Norwich.

- Know that Tudor England was a farming society. Most of the population (over 90%) lived in small villages and made their living from farming. Under Tudor rule, England became a more peaceful and richer place. Towns grew larger and the mining of coal, tin and lead became very popular.

- Know that Tudor England had a more diverse population than people often realise – for example, there is evidence that were many African immigrants living in Tudor England who lived quiet lives in a range of occupations, including court trumpeter, shoemaker, needle maker and servant.

Although Britain was involved in the enslavement of many Africans in other countries, black people living in England were free. Racist attitudes existed, but were not yet dominant and there are many examples of black people being treated fairly at this time.



- Know that life was much less comfortable than it is today. Water was collected from village pumps, wells or streams, but was often polluted.

- Know that toilets were called '**Privies**' and were not very private at all. They were often just a piece of wood over a bowl or a hole in the ground. People would wipe their bottoms with leaves or moss and the wealthier people used soft lamb's wool.

- Know that in palaces and castles, which had a moat, the lords and ladies would retire to a toilet set into a cupboard in the wall called a **garderobe**. Here the waste would drop down a shaft into the moat below.

- Know that the types of sports or pastimes a person did was a sign of their rank or wealth. The rich had time for falconry, hunting, jousting, tennis and bowls. What you ate was also a sign of your wealth; the rich could afford all kinds of meats and fish and expensive French wine. The best food was considered to be roast veal and venison.

- Know that the poor had to work hard and struggled to survive. They worked six days a week and only had holy days and public holidays off work. They ate coarse grey bread made from rye and barley. Soups were made from vegetables and herbs. Meat was a luxury but poor people sometimes kept animals to provide milk, cheese and eggs.

- Know that life for the poor in Tudor times was harsh. When the harvest failed, it was tempting for poor people to steal food. When people did break the law, they risked public flogging or being hanged.

- Know that not many children went to school in Tudor times. Those that did go were mainly the sons of wealthy or working families who could afford to pay the attendance fee. Boys began school at the age of 4 and moved to grammar school when they were 7. Girls were either kept at home by their parents (to help with housework) or sent to work to earn money for the family. Boys were educated for work, and the girls for marriage and running a household. The wealthiest families hired a tutor to teach the boys at home. Many Tudor towns and villages had a parish school where the local vicar taught boys to read and write.

#### Lesson 3: How the Tudor period began

- Know that the first Tudor monarch was **Henry VII**, in 1485.

- Know that Henry VII became King of England by defeating King **Richard III** at the **Battle of Bosworth** on 22<sup>nd</sup> August 1485 - the culmination of the **Wars of the Roses**.

- Know that the War of the Roses was a series of **civil wars** (wars between citizens of the same country) about seeking control of the throne of England.

- Know that there were two rivalling sides to this: 1) the **House of Lancaster** (Henry Tudor's side - represented by a red rose) and 2) the **House of York** (Richard III - represented by a white rose). It was named the War of the Roses because of these rose emblems.
- Know that the conflict lasted for many years (mainly 1455 to 1487)
- Know that during the August, Henry Tudor travelled from Wales all the way to the Midlands, gathering many supporters on the way (an estimated army of around 5000-8000 men). Richard III had an **army** of around 8000-12000.
- Know that King Richard III was the king at the time but died at the Battle of Bosworth. He was the last English **monarch** to have been killed in battle.
- Know that a Welshman, who is thought to have used a **halberd** to strike the king's skull, killed him. Historians have analysed Richard III's skull and found evidence of nine wounds to the head, with a missing part of the skull suggesting that the halberd sliced off part of it.
- Know that King Henry VII then **seized power** and became King in October of 1485.



#### Lesson 4: Henry VIII – what kind of person was he?

- Know that King Henry VII (who we learned about in the last lesson) ruled until 1509 (just under 24 years in total).
- Know that Henry's son then became King, **Henry VIII**. Henry was 18 at the time.
- Know that Henry VIII is one of the most well-known monarchs in British history because of what an interesting life he had, and because of how much changed in England when he was in power.
- Know that Henry VIII was tall and thickset, with blue-grey eyes, short auburn hair and a beard. He was handsome in his youth, but became bloated and fat when older (he had a 54-inch waist when he was 50).
- Know that paintings produced during Henry's life give us an insight into his image and his power, but also about *how he wanted to be portrayed*. They give us an interesting sense of how he changed, too. **A great link for a focus on interpreting sources:** <https://englishhistory.net/tudor/monarchs/portraits-king-henry-viii/>
- Know that Henry VIII was a great athlete in his youth. Henry threw the javelin and enjoyed hunting, archery, **jousting** and tennis. He spoke French, Spanish, Latin and some Italian and was a good musician. Henry played the lute and harpsichord well and could sing from sight.
- Know that Henry VIII lived at **Hampton Court Palace** in London where he had a bowling alley and tennis courts.
- Know that King Henry VIII wasn't the nicest person. He liked to get his own way and was a bit of a show off.
- Know that Henry had a fool to make him laugh. The fool told jokes and did funny things, like a clown.
- Know that when Henry died, he owned 50 different palaces (Hampton Court being the most famous).
- Know that during Henry VIII's thirty-eight year reign, he had more than 70,000 people **executed**. That works out as an average of just over five every day.



#### Lesson 5: Henry VIII – leader of the church, his wives and children







- Know that at this time in history, most people in England belonged to the **Catholic Church**, run by the **Pope** (who lived in Rome).
- Know that some people said the church was run badly and needed to change (reform).
- Know that the Pope was so powerful that he could even tell Henry what to do.
- Know that Henry wanted a son to be king when he died.
- Know that Henry's first wife was called **Catherine of Aragon**, and they only had a daughter.
- Know that Henry wanted to divorce Catherine and marry **Anne Boleyn** instead. But the Pope said this couldn't happen. Henry was furious about this and made everyone agree that in England, he (not the Pope) was in charge of the Church.
- Know that Henry VIII's new church was called the **Church of England**. This change was called '**The Reformation**'. With this change, Henry could now do what he liked.
- Know that Henry divorced Catherine and married Anne Boleyn. They had a daughter, Elizabeth (who would later be Queen). Anne was accused of working against Henry, so he had her beheaded.
- Know that Henry then married **Jane Seymour**. They had a son, Edward, but Jane died.
- Know that Henry then married **Anne of Cleves**. He didn't like Anne, so he divorced her.
- Know that Henry then married **Catherine Howard**, but he cut off her head too.
- Know that Henry finally married **Catherine Parr**. However, he was old now, and died after just a few years.

**The following diagram is a useful visual representation for children to be able to remember and recall this information from:**






**Henry VIII**  
 BORN: 1491  
 DIED: 1547  
 KING: 1509-  
 DEATH

 = WAS A  
 MONARCH

WIVES	
 Catherine of Aragon MARRIAGE: 1509-1533 DIVORCED	 Anne Boleyn MARRIAGE: 1533-1536 BEHEADED
 Jane Seymour MARRIAGE: 1536-1537 DIED	 Anne of Cleves MARRIAGE: JAN 1540-JUL 1540 DIVORCED
 Catherine Howard MARRIAGE: 1540-1541 BEHEADED	 Catherine Parr MARRIAGE: 1543-1547 SURVIVED

CHILDREN	
 Mary I BORN: 1516 DIED: 1558 QUEEN: 1553 - DEATH.	 Elizabeth I BORN: 1533 DIED: 1603 QUEEN: 1558 - DEATH.
 Edward VI BORN: 1537 DIED: 1553 KING: 1547 - DEATH.	

**HENRY VIII**  
 Henry VIII was a famous Tudor king. He had six different wives: "Divorced, beheaded, died - divorced beheaded, survived."  
 He had many interests, including sports and music. He was a good fighter in a battle, and he was well educated. He began the English Reformation that established the Church of England.

**Lesson 6: Henry VIII – the Royal Navy and the Mary Rose**

- Know that Henry VIII founded the **Royal Navy** – the country’s naval warfare force.
- Know that Henry inherited 15 ships, and by 1540 he had built that up to 45.
- Know that he built the first **naval dock** at Portsmouth.
- Know that Henry’s flagship was the **Mary Rose** (named after his sister). This ship was fitted with the latest guns.
- Know that Henry established a navy strong enough to stand up to other powerful navies, such as the French and Spanish.
- Know that the Mary Rose sank in 1545, while leading an attack against a French invasion fleet.
- Know that historians wanted to recover the Mary Rose in order to find out more about this period of history. A huge team of divers, **archaeologists** and scientists were involved in the project. It was first found in 1971.
- Know that the Mary Rose was actually risen from the sea in 1982, using a special frame.
- Know that over 19,000 objects have been recovered from the Mary Rose wreck site, and these give historians more information about the Tudor period. The most commonly found item on board were nit-combs! Children should be encouraged to make inferences about life at the time and living conditions by looking at the sort of objects found on the Mary Rose.



There are many images and explanations of these objects here: <https://maryrose.org/the-artefacts/1/> - this is a great opportunity to do some work on interpreting sources and comparing life then with life now.

**This unit will start with a brief retrieval quiz on the following past unit studied by the children:**

Anglo-Saxons and Vikings

**This unit will end with the following retrieval quiz:**

Questions:	Option A	Option B	Option C	Subject-specific disciplines - opportunities
The Tudor reign lasted from 1485 to...	1666	1900	1603	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This is a great unit for interpreting sources – in particular, paintings of Henry VIII and how they give us a sense of how he wanted to be portrayed. There is also a great opportunity to explore the sources of evidence found on the Mary Rose and consider what these tell us about life at the time.</li> <li>• Chronological understanding can be focused on in particular when exploring the wives of Henry VIII and when the reformation happened.</li> </ul>
What was the average life expectancy during this period?	18	35	70	
What was a toilet called at this time?	A privy	A loo	A hole	
Who defeated Richard III at the Battle of Bosworth field?	Henry VII	Henry VIII	Edward VI	
Who did Henry defy by making his own church?	His children	A priest	The Pope	
Where did Henry VIII live most of the time?	Westminster Palace	St Paul’s Cathedral	Hampton Court Palace	
Which of Henry’s wives gave him the son he so wanted?	Anne Boleyn	Jane Seymour	Catherine of Aragon	
The Mary Rose was Henry’s flagship. What was the most common item found on it when it was recovered?	Chairs	Nit-combs	Bowls	