

30 DAYS OF HISTORY THE MIDDLE AGES



BY BONNIE ROSE HUDSON



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30 Days of History: The Middle Ages

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Introduction

30 Days of History is designed to give your students 4-6 weeks of daily work focused on a specific topic or time period. Each looks at significant terms and events and asks 7 questions on each that will draw your students into researching and learning more. 30 Days of History: The Middle Ages looks at this important period in history in much of the then-known world. This can be used as a supplement to your history class, a tool to help develop research skills, or fun work to fill in as needed. However you use it, you're sure to learn more about the Middle Ages and discover history along the way.

For classroom or co-op use: Teachers can assign each of the different topics to different students with students doing one or more of the topics depending on the size of the class and desire of the teacher. Students can then give reports to the class when the time period is being studied to allow the entire class to benefit from the topics covered without each student needing to research all thirty topics.

Please Note: At the end of this book are bonus research questions dealing with this time period that will help your student go deeper into their study. If notes of sources are made when completing the questions for the 30 days, those same sources may give information to complete any of the research projects that are assigned to the student. These research projects can simply be added assignments or can be used as a final paper analyzing a certain part of the Middle Ages.

The Fall of Rome

The Roman Empire was at the height of its power and wealth between approximately AD 100 and 200. Roman emperor Hadrian did not continue to expand the empire, and other than a Jewish revolt in Palestine in 132, things were relatively peaceful. Hadrian made Jerusalem a Roman colony and would not allow the Jewish people to worship there. After Hadrian died, the emperors became more and more powerful, and the people became less interested in their government. However, one person could not do all the work needed to keep an empire as large as Rome together. Roman armies became very loyal to their commanders, as they were very far away from Rome.

When did Diocletian become emperor, and how did he set up the government of the Roman Empire? _____

What did Diocletian do concerning the economy and religious practices of the empire to try to organize the empire the way he wanted it? _____

What happened concerning the religious practices of the Roman Empire when Constantine I came to power? What happened concerning the center of government in 330 under Constantine I? _____

What happened to permanently change the empire after the death of Emperor Theodosius in 395?

How did the West Roman Empire fare over time? What finally happened to the West Roman Empire in 476? _____

How did the East Roman Empire fare over time? What finally happened to the East Roman Empire?

After the fall of the Roman Empire, what force united Europe for approximately 1,000 years? _____

Barbarian Invaders

Many warlike tribes known as barbarians lived in areas around the borders of the Roman Empire. They often attacked the borders in an attempt to enlarge the area belonging to their tribes. As the Roman Empire weakened, it became easier for these tribes to fight their way into the land that had belonged to the empire. Slowly, the Roman Empire began to shrink.

Who were the Angles? Where were they originally from? What areas did they invade? _____

Who were the Saxons? Where were they originally from? What areas did they invade? _____

Who were the Vandals? Where were they originally from? What areas did they invade? _____

Who were the Huns? Where were they originally from? What areas did they invade? _____

Who were the Goths? Where were they originally from? What areas did they invade? _____

Who were the Visigoths? Where were they originally from? What areas did they invade? _____

Who were the Ostrogoths? Where were they originally from? What areas did they invade? _____

England

When the Roman Empire fell, the people left in England (originally called Britons by the Romans) faced terrorizing attacks by tribes the Romans had previously protected them from. The Romans had built walls to keep out some of the tribes they had been unable to defeat, such as the Picts and Scots, but with Rome and many of the best fighters among the Britons gone, few were left to defend against tribes now determined to conquer England. What other groups invaded England at the same time the Picts and Scots were invading? Where were they from? Where did they settle?

What happened to the Britons who were pushed into the north and east by the invading tribes? What legendary hero was probably a tribal chief who fought valiantly against the invading tribes? What happened to the Britons who stayed in the southern, eastern, and central parts of England?

Who traveled from France to Kent in 597 to visit Kent's King Ethelbert? Why? What else did this traveler do while in England? ? _____

What two tribes became the most powerful in England? The tribes divided into separate nations, with separate rulers. Which ruler became the most powerful in the 800s and was driven into exile for a time? Where did he spend his exile? Why is he often considered the first monarch of England?

When the Danes began to attack England, what kingdom of England were they not able to conquer? Who was king of that kingdom? Who was this king's ancestor? What social improvements did this king support? _____

Although the area that had been conquered by the Danes was eventually retaken, the Danes began attacking again during the late 900s. What brother of the king of Denmark became king of England? Was he a good king? What did he accomplish? _____

After the death of the first Danish king, his two sons each ruled for a time. Who were they? What Saxon king was next to take the throne? Who had been an ancestor of this king? What well-known modern landmark was one of his building accomplishments? What disputes caused major problems during his reign? _____

France

When the Roman Empire fell, one of the tribes that invaded parts of the empire was the Franks. They settled in what was then called Gaul, which is modern-day France. At first, there were many divisions among the Franks, with each one having its own king. However, over time, one king rose up to unite the Franks. Who was Clovis? What dynasty did he begin? Why was his alliance with the Byzantine emperor Anastasius I important? _____

What was the Law of the Salian Franks that is believed to have originated during the reign of Clovis? _____

After the Moors invaded Spain, they crossed the Pyrenees Mountains and invaded Gaul. The kings of France at that time were weak, but one person in particular led the armies to defeat the invading army of Moors. Who was he? How was he in a position to have enough power to defeat the Moors? Where did the battle start that defeated the Moors, and where did it end? What was the result for the leader of the army of the Franks? _____

Who overthrew the last Merovingian ruler to become king of the Franks in 751? What dynasty did he begin? What accomplishments did he make for the Franks? _____

Who became the sole king of the Franks in 771? What did this king accomplish? How did the kingdom grow under his rule? What was his relationship with the Christian church at the time?

Since learning became important again during the latter 700s and early 800s, what was this time of revival called? What did the king at this time do to improve education? _____

When the powerful king of the Franks died on January 2, 814, what happened to the kingdom he had united and strengthened? What happened to the cultural legacy he left? _____

Byzantine Empire

What area made up the Byzantine Empire? What city was the Byzantine Empire named after, and what was the history of that city through the time of Constantine I? _____

Although the Byzantine Empire initially kept many of the distinctive characteristics of the Roman Empire, by the middle of the 500s, many of these characteristics were beginning to be lost. What were some of the things that seemed to be changing in the empire at that point? _____

Who was Emperor Justinian? Where was he born? Summarize important parts of his reign. What was his famous law code called, and how is it reflected in the modern age? What was introduced during the time of Emperor Justinian that gave the Byzantine market its own supply of silk?

Who was Theodora, wife of Justinian? Give details of her life. What kind of influence did she have on Emperor Justinian? _____

What famous church, located in present-day Istanbul, Turkey, did Justinian I order built? Tell some of the history of the church. _____

Who were the next four emperors after Justinian I? Summarize what happened to the Byzantine Empire under each of them. _____

How did Heraclius work differently in the Byzantine Empire as compared to the previous four emperors? In what ways did he help the empire? In what ways was he not helpful to the empire?

The Appearance of Islam

Who was the founder of the new religion that appeared called Islam? Where did it begin? What areas did it initially impact? _____

As the Islamic religion spread, it unified groups of people who continued to spread the religion. Into what areas did the Islamic religion spread through the early 700s? _____

In the year 711, the Islamic religion spread into Spain with the coming of what group of people? _____

What famous palace and fortress did this group of people eventually build in Granada, Spain? What does the name mean? _____

When the people of Spain crossed the Pyrenees Mountains into the kingdom of the Franks, what leader of the Franks stopped their advance? _____

Where was the battle fought that stopped the people of Spain from spreading into the kingdom of the Franks? _____

What effect did the Moors have on art and architecture? _____

The Vikings

Where were the Vikings from? What tribal race were the Vikings from? What were some of the names used by Europeans to refer to the Vikings? _____

Why type of language did the Vikings speak? Did they have a written alphabet? If so, tell a little about it. Although very accomplished sailors, what did the majority of Vikings do for a living? What other areas were they accomplished in? _____

What was it about the countries where they were from that helped make the Vikings excellent sailors? Why did the Vikings begin to attack towns in Britain and the area of northern Gaul? _____

What happened when the Vikings began to settle in the areas they had been raiding? Were the Vikings cruel or kind to the people they conquered? _____

Who was the leader of a group of Vikings that raided the kingdom of the Franks? How did King Charles III, the king of the Franks, make peace with him? What were the terms of the peace settlement? What did the Franks call the Vikings? What was the land called that the Vikings settled in Gaul? _____

In the 800s, a Viking ship was driven off course during a storm while sailing to the Faeroe Islands. Where did it end up? What did the Vikings call this new island? _____

Later, in the 900s, Eric the Red sailed farther west from the new colony that had been settled in the 800s. He discovered another new island, much larger than the one previously discovered. What island was it? What happened when Viking colonists found out about it? _____

The Monastery

Christian monasteries were very popular and important during the Middle Ages. Define the following terms as they relate to monasteries of the time:

Monastery _____

Monk _____

Abbey church _____

Cloisters _____

Chapter house _____

Dormitory _____

Refectory _____

The Social Influence of Monasteries and Monks

Answer the following questions in the context of the Middle Ages:

How did monks help those who were sick or poor? _____

What did monks in monasteries do to help education? _____

Give a detailed explanation of what a precentor did. _____

What was a scriptorium, and where were some of the most famous? _____

What were medieval books written on in the early part of the Middle Ages, and what was the process from start to finish of copying books? _____

What were the main languages used in the books that were written? Why? _____

What were the three types of books usually found in monastic libraries? _____

The Feudal System

Define these terms in detail as they were used in the Middle Ages:

Nobleman _____

Lord _____

Serf _____

Vassal _____

Fief _____

Oath _____

Villein _____

Parts of a Castle

Define these terms in detail as they were used in the Middle Ages. Please note that very early castles were often made of wood and were hard to protect. However, as time went on, stone castles became more common. These terms refer to the stone castles of later times.

Tower _____

Portcullis _____

Moat _____

Drawbridge _____

Battering ram _____

Pickets _____

The keep _____

Life in the Castle

Define these terms in detail as they were used in the Middle Ages. Please note, we have included information about knights in this section although they were not as common in the early Middle Ages. The idea of knighthood started early in the Middle Ages, but the knights we are used to hearing about did not become common until the latter part of the Middle Ages.

Minstrel _____

Chivalry _____

Knight _____

Squire _____

Page _____

Tournament _____

Joust _____

Improvements on Existing Inventions

There were many innovations during the Middle Ages. New inventions and improvements to existing inventions continued to allow civilization to grow and advance. Write an explanation of how the following innovations helped make life better for people in the Middle Ages.

Horseshoe _____

Horse collar _____

Moldboard plow _____

Iron-tipped plowshare _____

Crop rotation _____

Astrolabe _____

Silver penny of King Offa (first standardized English coin) _____

The Plague

Historians believe the many outbreaks of plague during the Middle Ages were actually outbreaks of the Bubonic Plague. What was the Plague of Justinian? Where and when did it start? Was it possible to develop immunity to it? _____

How was the plague spread? What were the symptoms? _____

Along what routes did the Plague of Justinian seem to spread? For how many years did it spread before it appeared to have run its course as a pandemic, with only a few new cases seen? _____

Did the plague strike people only? How was it treated? When tombs and graveyards were filled, how were the dead disposed of? _____

Constantinople was severely weakened by the loss of life from the plague that had spread through it. What was the result when invaders tried to take advantage of the weakened state and attack the city? _____

What other impacts did the plague have on the Byzantine Empire? _____

After the Plague of Justinian, when did the plague next break out in Constantinople? How did it impact the city at that time? _____

Holy Roman Empire

Where was the Holy Roman Empire based? What areas did it include? When did it begin? _____

What were the three main views among the people of what the origin and function of the Holy Roman Empire was? How did this make ruling the empire difficult? _____

After Charlemagne's empire fell apart, whom did Pope John XII make "Emperor of the Romans"? How was the emperor chosen? Who voted? _____

The ties between the emperor and the pope were important for what reason? How did these ties begin? _____

What struggle became a major one between the church and the state when Holy Roman Emperor Henry IV of Germany came to power about the same time as Pope Gregory VII? _____

The Holy Roman Empire was powerful. When King Canute of England made a trip to meet with the Holy Roman Emperor Conrad II, what benefits did he obtain for his people? Why would these benefits be important? _____

What religious/military call was put out by Pope Urban II to help the Byzantine emperor fight the Seljuk Turks and, in the process, try to take back the Holy Land? How successful was it? _____

William of Normandy

You will recall that the Vikings settled an area of Gaul (France) when the land was given to them by King Charles III. William, Duke of Normandy, was a descendent of the leader of this group of Vikings. When Edward the Confessor, King of England, died, who became king? Why was this person chosen to be king? _____

The French nobleman who claimed Edward had promised the throne to him was William, Duke of Normandy. How was he related to Edward? What had happened to cause William to believe he had a right to the throne of England? _____

What distracted the new English king when he was preparing for an attack by William of Normandy? What did the English king do about this distraction? _____

What is the historic battle that was fought at this time? Describe what happened at the battle.

When was William of Normandy crowned King of England? How long did it take him to stop the rebellions against him? What was one of the things he took from the people who resisted him? ____

What building projects took place under William's rule? Whom did William appoint to many of the government positions? What happened to most of the Anglo-Saxon bishops of England? What happened to most of the Anglo-Saxon peasants under the Normans? _____

What was the Domesday Book? When was it assembled? What did it contain? Where is it now? ____

Frederick I

Frederick I was also known as Frederick Barbarossa or Frederick Redbeard. Frederick became the German king and Holy Roman Emperor Frederick I. Who was the prior German king? How were they related? Why did people at that time think Frederick I would be able to solve many of the internal problems of the kingdom? _____

What problem did Frederick I have with the popes in Rome? What did Frederick do that violated the Concordat of Worms of 1122? Was it easy for Frederick to win against the papacy? _____

When was Frederick I crowned Holy Roman Emperor? What agreement had Frederick signed with Pope Eugenius III that guaranteed Frederick would be crowned Holy Roman Emperor? _____

Although the Holy Roman Emperor was supposed to be closely associated with the Roman Catholic Church, there were often disputes between the emperors and the popes, as they each wanted to have control over the other. In 1159-1160, what happened concerning Frederick I, Victor IV, and Alexander III that caused a major problem between the empire and the pope? _____

When did Frederick finally recognize Alexander as the actual pope? How did this come about? _____

When Frederick I made changes in his empire, he gave certain compensation to Duke Henry the Lion. What privileges did Henry the Lion receive? What cities did he found, and how did his actions impact the development of trade and the economy of Germany at that time? _____

When a dispute arose between Frederick I and Henry the Lion, what happened to Henry the Lion? What did Frederick I do to try to keep the princes from becoming too powerful? _____

Genghis Khan

While events in Europe created nations from the breakup of the Roman Empire and the invasion of the barbarians, the region of Mongolia was being controlled by several nomadic tribes. In approximately 1162, a child named Temujin was born, who was to become the ruler Genghis Khan. Give a short summary of the life of Temujin before he became Genghis Khan. _____

What happened to Temujin in the year 1206? What had happened to the warring tribes of nomadic peoples living in Mongolia? Where was Temujin's attention then turned? _____

What type of troops made up the Mongol army in the beginning? How did this type of army help in defeating other nomadic tribes? Why was it not good for conquering cities? _____

What types of warfare were used by the Mongols in order to be able to lay siege to large cities?

What was done to the rivers in some cases? _____

What did Genghis Khan learn from the Naiman that helped preserve the history of the Mongol people? What did he learn from others about the importance of towns and the usefulness of peasants and craftsmen that helped his empire grow? _____

Conquering what area was the main goal of Genghis Khan? When did this conquest begin? What interrupted him in this conquest? What part of this area was finally conquered by the Mongols? When? _____

When did Genghis Khan die? Whom did he choose as his successor? What area had been conquered by the Mongol people at the time of Genghis Khan's death? What two great empires of the time had Genghis Khan's armies defeated? _____

Magna Carta

From the time of the Norman conquest of England through the 1100s, many of the kings of England were mainly just and strong kings. There were certain laws that had developed within the feudal system, and kings were generally respectful of those laws. However, there was nothing in the law that actually controlled the power of the king. Describe what place in feudal society the barons held in England. What changes over the way previous kings ruled did King John make after he became king in 1199? How did this lead the barons and the leaders of the church to oppose him? _____

What happened between 1202 and 1206 that caused the English barons to become even unhappier with King John? _____

When the group met in 1213 to draw up a list of demands to make of King John, where did they meet? What did they base their list of demands on? _____

Did King John initially agree to the demands of the people? What happened in England after King John lost an important battle against France at Bouvines in 1214? _____

When did King John finally sign the Magna Carta? What was done with it when he signed it? _____

What main group or groups of people immediately benefitted from the signing of the Magna Carta? In what way did the Magna Carta come to benefit all the people as time passed? _____

Many of the clauses of the Magna Carta have had an important impact on laws in both England and the lands she colonized. Do some research and name some of the laws that had their beginnings in clause 39 of the Magna Carta. What documents of the American government can be traced back to the Magna Carta? _____

Kublai Khan

Do some research and write a short summary that explains who Kublai Khan was. _____

In uniting China under his rule, what did Kublai Khan do with respect to dating and naming his reign and setting up his capital city? Why did this gain the respect of the Chinese people? _____

What area of China was the last to be conquered? When was it conquered? What dynasty was ruling in this area of China? _____

What areas did Kublai Khan try to capture in a series of small wars? Was he successful? What was the ultimate objective of trying to expand his sphere of authority of China? _____

What was the class structure of the population in China during the rule of Kublai Khan? How many classes were there, what were they, and what were the responsibilities of each? _____

What did the illiteracy of Kublai Khan and his successors lead to for the Mongol Empire? Why would this cause a problem in ruling such a large area? _____

During the time of Kublai Khan and his successors, much changed about the Mongol way of life. What changed and why? How did this help lead to the collapse of the empire? Why do you think the Mongols were never again a force to be reckoned with? _____

Marco Polo

Do a little research and summarize the early life of Marco Polo. _____

Under what circumstances did Marco Polo go on his first trading visit to China? How old was he?

Summarize a description of the trip Marco Polo took on his first trading visit to China. When did the traders leave? What route was taken? How long did it take? Where did they end the trip? _____

Why did Kublai Khan ask Marco Polo to go on official tours of the kingdom? Where did Marco travel on these tours? What was Marco Polo's assignment in the Chinese city of Yangzhou? How long did it last? _____

Why did Marco Polo and his family worry about getting home safely? When and for what reason did the opportunity come for them to return home? _____

When did Marco Polo and his family arrive back home? How long had they been gone? What was happening when they arrived in Venice? What happened to Marco Polo when he was captured by the enemy? _____

What advancements did Marco Polo describe in his story of his travels that were unknown to Europeans at the time? _____

France and the Capetian Dynasty

Many people feel the birth of France as a nation happened with the coronation of Hugh Capet as king in 987. Who was Hugh Capet? What area did the Capetian kings rule for many years? Who ruled the remainder of the French land? _____

How did the Capetian kings rule for so long? What was one major factor in the decline of the French nobles' power? How did the Capetian kings add more land to their personal land, and how did this help them? _____

What did Philip II of France do to increase the size of France and the authority of the king? What happened to Paris under his rule? _____

Under Philip II of France, some of the nobles and/or clerics in Philip II's entourage began to specialize in justice or finance. What is the meaning of "curia," and how did it become more developed in France under Philip II's reign? _____

What advancement did Philip IV of France make in the government of France? What was his involvement with the church? _____

What was a guild? What role did they play in town government? _____

What brought about the end of the Capetian dynasty? What dynasty began after the Capetian dynasty? What kind of king was Louis VI? _____

Scotland

There was much fighting among the barbarian tribes in the early history of Scotland. By about 1018, the king of the area that was then Scotland was Malcolm II. When did Malcolm III become king of Scotland? What did Malcolm III do that allowed English influence to mix with the Celtic characteristics of the Scottish people? _____

Who became the Scottish king after Malcolm III's reign ended? What did he do when English nobles wanted to settle in Scotland? How did the king benefit from this? _____

When did King Edward I of England declare himself king of Scotland? What did Edward I do after the king he had appointed resigned? What did he do with the Stone of Scone? What was the reaction of the Scottish people to Edward I? _____

Research the early life of William Wallace and write a short summary of it. _____

What victory did William Wallace and his men win that nearly freed Scotland from English rule? When did this happen? What did Edward I do in response? What happened to William Wallace? ____

Who took the throne of Scotland in 1306? Why did he feel he had a right to the throne? What happened in the two English battles with King Robert's men in 1306? Where were these battles?

When a large English army attempted to get to the castle in Stirling in 1314, they were met by King Robert's army. Where was the battle fought? How long did it last? Who won? What was the name of this battle, and how is it viewed in Scottish history? When was Scottish independence officially recognized? _____

John Wycliffe

Research John Wycliffe and write a short summary of his early life. _____

What was the problem Wycliffe saw with the conditions in Europe concerning whether or not the church or the king of a country was the ultimate power? _____

Did Wycliffe think it was right for the church to have so much secular power? What practice of the church at that time did he denounce in his *Summa Theologiae*? _____

Was the church open to any of the reforms Wycliffe proposed? Did Wycliffe continue to try to get reforms passed? What were the upper classes afraid of concerning Wycliffe's ideas? _____

What radical step did Wycliffe take in order to try to help the common person be able to read the Word of God? _____

What was the name of the group of followers that followed Wycliffe's teachings? Why were they given this name? _____

What movement did Wycliffe lay the foundation for? Who was influenced by his teachings? _____

Geoffrey Chaucer and *The Canterbury Tales*

Research Geoffrey Chaucer and write a short summary of his early life. _____

When Chaucer was in his early 30s, he began working for the government of England. What positions did he hold throughout his lifetime? _____

How did the positions he held in England help him in his knowledge of life in England? How did this, in turn, help him write *The Canterbury Tales*? _____

In a sentence or two, what is *The Canterbury Tales* about? _____

How long did Chaucer work on *The Canterbury Tales*? Do scholars think the story is complete? How many tales are presented? _____

What are some of the professions represented by the characters in *The Canterbury Tales*? Where were the characters going? _____

What do many critics believe the one-way journey of the pilgrims in *The Canterbury Tales* represents? What is the end result Chaucer reaches in the Retraction (the section that closes the book)? _____

Black Death

What is the Black Death believed to have been? Where is the epidemic of the Black Death that struck Europe in the early 14th century thought to have originated? _____

When did this particular epidemic of the Black Death reach Switzerland and Germany? When did it hit Italy, Spain, and France? When did it strike London? When did it reach Scotland, Scandinavia, and the Baltic countries? _____

What is believed to have caused the spread of the disease? When did it later recur between the mid-1300s and 1400? _____

What was the rate of death from the Black Death in areas such as London? Who were some of the royalty who died from it, although they had the means to try to escape? _____

How did the catastrophic numbers of dead impact the food available for those remaining? Why would it have had this effect? _____

What group of people were blamed for the catastrophe? How did the people of Europe react to those they blamed? _____

What percentage of the population of Europe died as a result of the Black Death? Approximately how many people would that have been? How long did it take Europe to rebuild to the population it had before the Black Death struck? _____

Peasants' Revolt

What conditions led to the Jacquerie, or revolt, of the peasants in France in 1358? _____

What battle of the Hundred Years' War had happened not long before the French peasants revolted?
How did the truce between England and France add to the problems of the French peasants? __

What conditions led to the outbreak of the Peasants' Revolt in England? When did it start? _____

Who was England's king when the Peasants' Revolt began? How old was he? How did he try to bring peace? _____

How long did the revolt last in London? How long did the revolt last in the outer areas? Was it successful in obtaining better conditions for the poor laborers? _____

What tax was stopped as a result of the Peasants' Revolt? In what other ways did good results come from the revolt? _____

What were some common problems faced by the peasants of both France and England that caused each group to revolt? _____

Wars of the Roses

Who became the first king of England of the House of Lancaster? Why did he think he had a right to be king? _____

Explain why the name Wars of the Roses was used to describe the war between the Lancasters and the Yorks for the throne of England. When did the war begin? Who was king when the fighting actually began? _____

Who became Protector of the Realm when King Henry VI was not able to rule for health reasons? What were King Henry VI's health problems? What happened to this person at the Battle of Wakefield? _____

What happened to the succession to the English throne after the Battle of Wakefield? _____

When King Edward IV signed the Treaty of Picquigny, how did it help England? _____

Who became king after Edward IV died and his son was imprisoned? Was he a good king? Why or why not? _____

Who led a rebellion against the successor to Edward IV? What famous battle was fought in this rebellion in 1485? What was the result? How did this bring about an end to the Wars of the Roses? _____

The Hundred Years' War

What were the causes of the Hundred Years' War? What two countries took part? When did the war start? _____

Give a short summary of the Battle of Crecy, the first important battle of the Hundred Years' War.

Explain the reasoning of the English king Henry V for thinking it was a good time to renew fighting the war in 1413. _____

Give a short summary of why the English, although outnumbered, were able to win the Battle of Agincourt. What advantages did the English have? What disadvantages did the French face? _____

What was the Treaty of Troyes? What were the terms? Why did it not work out as planned? _____

What victory in 1429 during the Hundred Years' War allowed the French to force the English to leave most of France? Who led the French forces in this battle? _____

After the French victory in 1429, there was only one area that remained occupied by the English. What was it? What was it about the location of this area that made it important to the English? When did the English lose this area to France? _____

The Crusades

The Crusades began late in the 11th century and continued into the 16th century. They influenced life during the Middle Ages in many ways. They impacted religion, the economy, the armies, society, the relationship of the people and the rulers of the countries, and many other things. Research the Crusades. Write your impressions of what happened and why. Include how they impacted daily life in both helpful and harmful ways. Include comments on each of the major Crusades. How do the effects of the Crusades continue to be seen in modern times?

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30 Days of History: The Middle Ages

Bonus Research Questions

1. The armor worn by knights changed from the early Middle Ages through the later Middle Ages. How was the early armor made? What was changed about the way it was made? Why did it change? How did it differ from kingdom to kingdom? Did the differences have to do with the “fashions” of the kingdom or the types of warfare the Knights engaged in?
2. The knights have a reputation for their bravery in battle, but were they the troops that were more numerous than other types of troops? What were the most useful types of troops in battle? Why? In what instances were the knights the most useful? Why did the reputation of the knights become legendary throughout time?
3. The building of castles changed throughout time. How were they built in the early Middle Ages? How did they change throughout the time period? What was the catalyst for the change? By the end of the Middle Ages, were castles still as useful for protection in war as they were earlier in the time period? Why or why not?
4. Research the legend of King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table. Where is it thought the legend originated? How did it grow over time? Why would it be important to the people of the time to have a legend like this to cling to?
5. Research the legend of Robin Hood. Where is it thought the legend originated? How did it grow over time? Why would it be important to the people of the time to have a legend like this to cling to?



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