



I thought this would be interesting to find out more about this time in history, especially because our town was important in this period.

- Who was the first Tudor?
- Who were the Kings and Queens of this time?
- When did the Tudor Times begin and end?
- Why is the Tudor Rose red and white?
- Draw a Tudor stately home.
- Design an outfit for a rich/poor person
- Make an advert for a Tudor fashion magazine!
- Why do you think that the rich and poor of Tudor times wore different clothes?

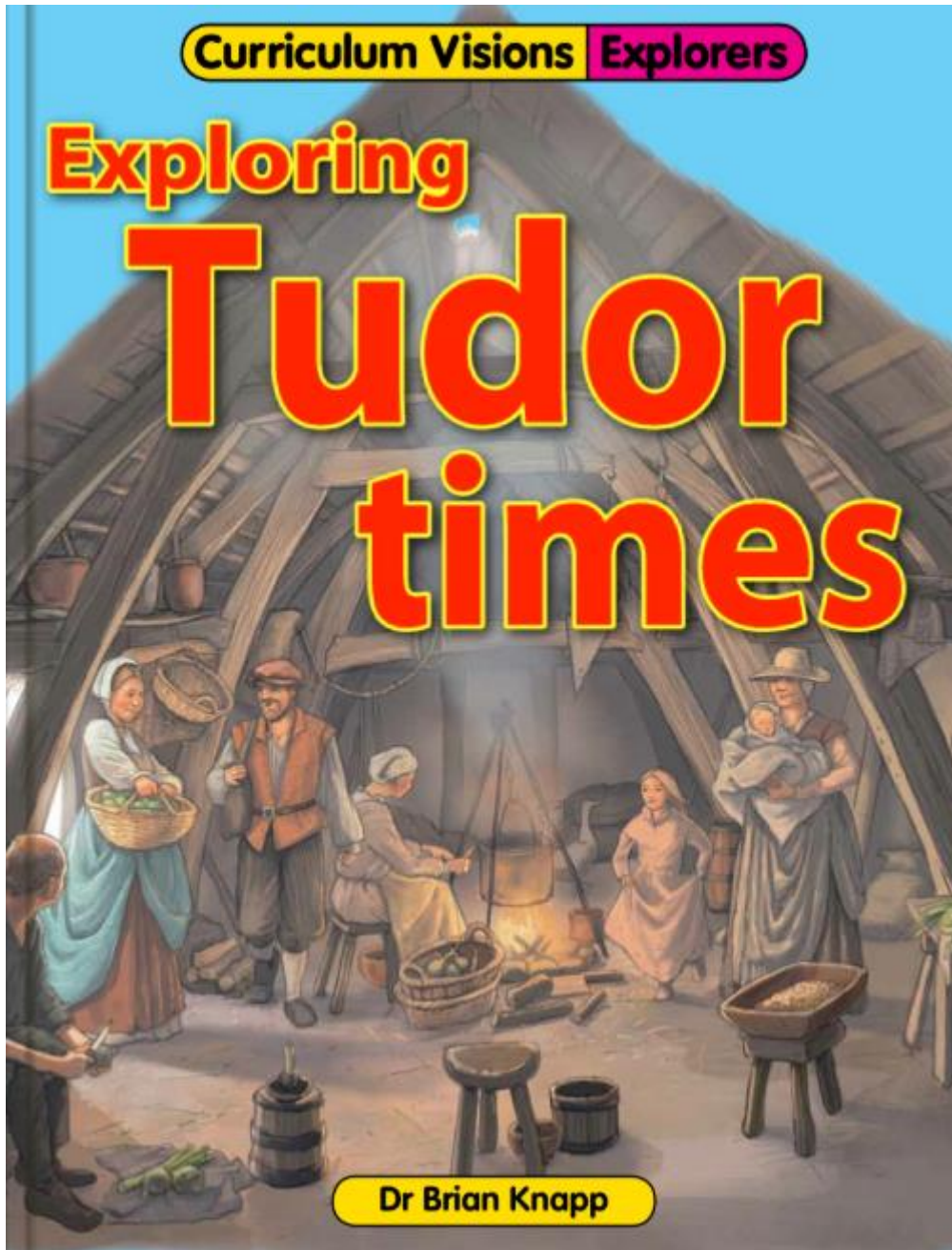
Royal connection:

Ludlow Castle was home to some of the Tudor royal family ! Who lived here? Why were they here?

Curriculum Visions Explorers

Exploring

# Tudor times



Dr Brian Knapp

## World history



Life in an early Tudor hall was simple even for the wealthy. Chimneys were not common, so the smoky fire was usually still in the centre of the room. There was no upper floor.

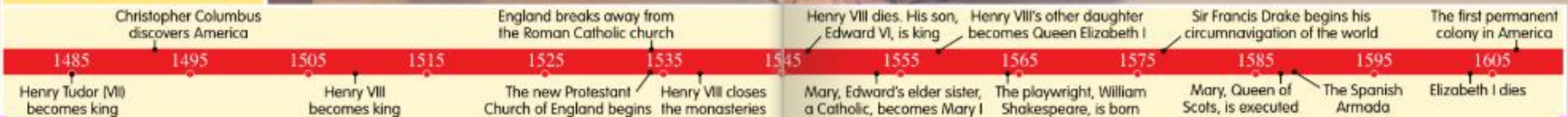


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Look up the **bold** words in the glossary on page 32 of this book.

## Tudor times timeline



# Meet the Tudors

The **Tudors** were kings and queens of England who reigned between 1485 and 1603, that is between five and four hundred years ago. They were all descended from Henry Tudor, who became King Henry VII (Henry the seventh).

Henry VII's second son, Henry, became Henry VIII of England. Henry VII's daughter, Mary, was married to the King of France. Another daughter, Margaret, was married to the king of Scotland. In this way, later on the kings and queens of France and Scotland could claim the English throne. This led to trouble all through Tudor times.

Henry VIII wanted to divorce his first wife. However, the Roman Catholic church would not let him. To get around this problem, Henry founded the Church of England.

Henry VIII had six wives: Catherine of Aragon (divorced), Anne Boleyn (beheaded), Jane Seymour (died), Anne of Cleves (divorced), Kathryn Howard (beheaded) and Katherine Parr (who outlived Henry).

This is the red and white Tudor rose.



Queen Elizabeth I, also called 'Good Queen Bess'. She never married, so she was the last of the Tudors.

## Did you know... ?

- The Tudor rose is made using the red rose, a symbol of Lancaster, and the white rose, a symbol of York. The Tudors' idea was to unite these powerful peoples and so stop **civil war**.
- Nearly all of the Tudor kings and queens had an important part in Britain's history. Henry VII was followed by Henry VIII, then by his three children – Edward VI (who died young), Mary I and lastly Elizabeth I (who all died childless).



Why were Henry VIII and Elizabeth I called Tudors?

## New church, new wealth

In Tudor times England broke away from the Roman Catholic church. It happened like this.

Henry VIII was a dashing young prince who was popular with the ladies. But as a king he needed sons to rule England after him.

Henry was married to Catherine of Aragon. She bore him a son, who soon died. Then she gave birth to Mary. By now Catherine was too old to have any more children, so Henry needed a new wife.

The Roman Catholic church refused to give Henry a divorce, so he set up the Church of England with himself as head, then gave himself the divorce he needed.

On the way out: The Roman Catholic church, the pope, cardinals, monks, abbots, abbeys and monasteries. Many monasteries were destroyed in Tudor times. This is why they are ruins today.



On the way in: Merchants with money, new stately homes, a new Protestant church headed by Henry.



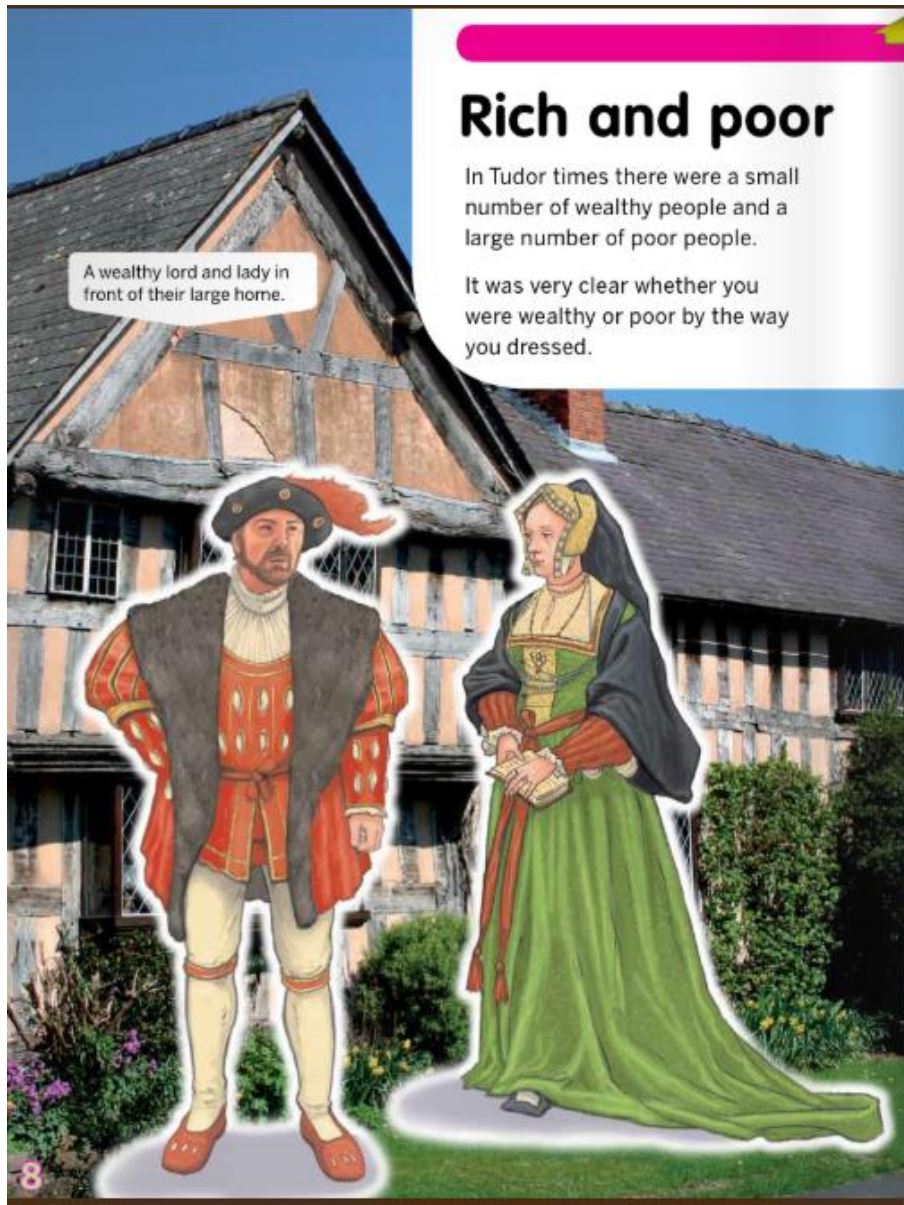
### Did you know... ?

- After Henry took over church lands he sold them off and made a profit. Henry smashed in the roofs of many monasteries and threw out the monks.
- Wealthy merchants bought the land from Henry. As a result many new estates were formed and new **stately homes** were built in the countryside.

New stately homes had huge upstairs rooms called galleries in which the new lords and ladies could greet their guests.



Why did Henry start a new church?



A wealthy lord and lady in front of their large home.

## Rich and poor

In Tudor times there were a small number of wealthy people and a large number of poor people.

It was very clear whether you were wealthy or poor by the way you dressed.

If you were wealthy you wore very fancy clothes you couldn't possibly work in.

If you were poor, you wore clothes that were hard wearing and simple to make, and that could easily be mended.



Poor people in front of their rented cottage.

### Did you know... ?

- Poor women wore a dress of wool, or a blouse, waistcoat and skirt, soft shoes and a bonnet. An apron took the worst of the wear.
- Poor men wore a soft hat, a shirt and a tunic over close-fitting trousers called hose, all made of rough, but hard-wearing, wool.
- Wealthy women in Henry VIII's time wore a long gown drawn in at the waist with wide sleeves. A **ruff** around the neck became fashionable in Elizabethan times.
- Wealthy men in Henry VIII's time wore a soft hat, a padded tunic, a silk shirt, hose and soft shoes. In later Tudor times men wore ruffs as well.

**Q** Why did rich and poor wear different clothes?