

Key Learning

Why were castles built?

Kings, Queens or powerful people built castles to protect themselves, to live in, to control people, to win battles and to look important and wealthy.

Who first built castles in Britain?

In 1066, William the Conqueror defeated King Harold II at the Battle of Hastings and began the time of castle building in England that lasted until 1250.

What were the jobs in a castle in Britain in the past?

People who lived and worked in castles had many different jobs. These included soldiers, knights, servants, cook, jester, crafts people and the unfortunate gong-farmer.

Where were castles built?

Castles were built all across Britain and in many other parts of the world, such as Zimbabwe and Syria. Castles were often built on top of hills for protection and near rivers or the sea to help with vital supplies.

What are castles used for in the present day?

	<i>homes</i>	<i>defences</i>	<i>museums</i>



The Tower of London

The Tower of London began to be built in 1078 on the River Thames, by William the Conqueror.

People still live in the Tower of London today!

There is a governor, yeoman warders, soldiers, a doctor and a chaplain.

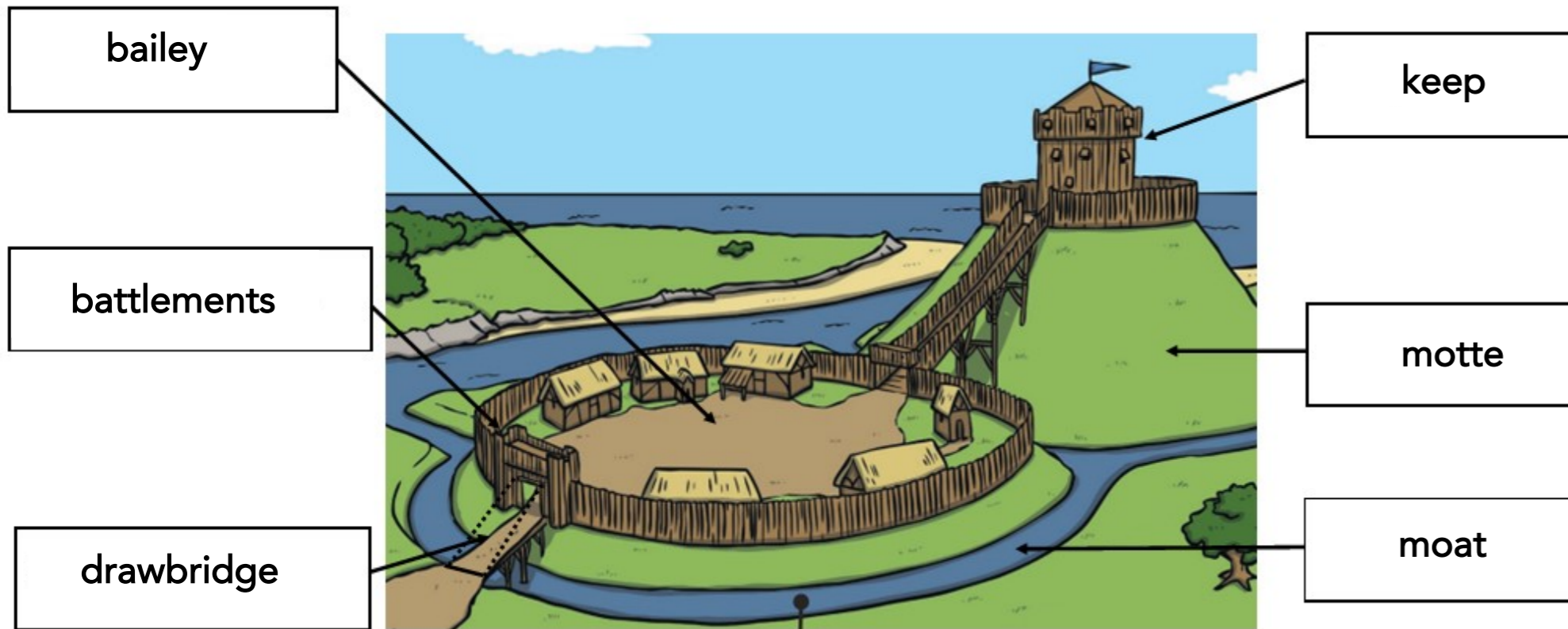
It is also a museum with 3 million visitors a year.



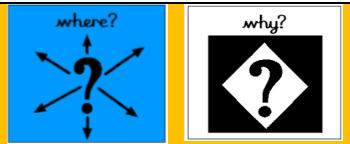
Key Vocabulary

castle		A large building, typically of the medieval period, built to live, defend from attackers and in modern times turned into museums.
motte		The mound used for the site of a castle
battlements		A squared opening at the top of a castle wall.
bailey		A courtyard enclosed by a curtain wall
arrow loops		Openings or crosses set inside walls and towers.
tower		A tall, narrow building forming part of a castle.
moat		A deep, wide ditch which goes around a castle which is normally filled with water.
barbican		The outer defence of a castle which can be a double tower above a gate or drawbridge.
drawbridge		A bridge over the castle's moat.
portcullis		A strong, heavy gate which is can be opened or closed.
keep		A fortified tower built within castles.
power		Influence behaviour of others

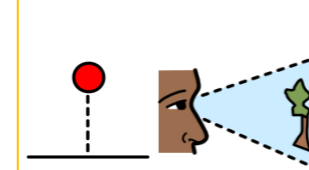
A motte and bailey castle in Britain



Where were castles built?
Why were they built there?



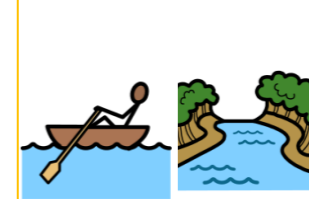
On a high point (hill) to see what is going on around— safer from attacks.



In a wood, easy to get the material wood to build with.



Access to water for drinking, washing, cooking and transport.



Near open fields for crops to grow and



Great Zimbabwe in the continent of Africa

This was a medieval city in the south-eastern hills of modern day Zimbabwe in the continent of Africa.



It was built by the Shona tribe. Some historians think it took 700 years to build!



They traded gold, silver, copper and ivory, much like Mansa Musa.



Hill Circular wall Tower



Links to previous and future learning

EYFS	Year 1
Who am I? Local Area	Monarchy Explorers
Year 2	Future learning KS2
United — The UK	Anglo-Saxons Magna Carta Maya