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Towers, Tunnels and Turrets

Castles

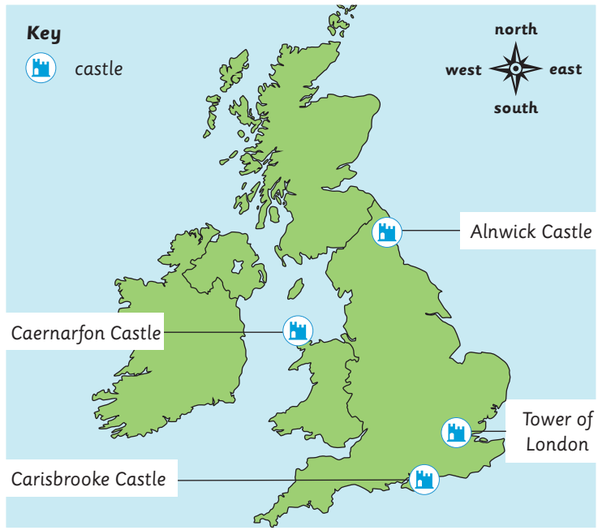
A castle is a structure that was built to protect the people who lived inside from their enemies. Most castles were built hundreds of years ago. They were usually built high up on a hill so that people could see if their enemies were coming.

The first castles were made from wood but these were easy to burn down.

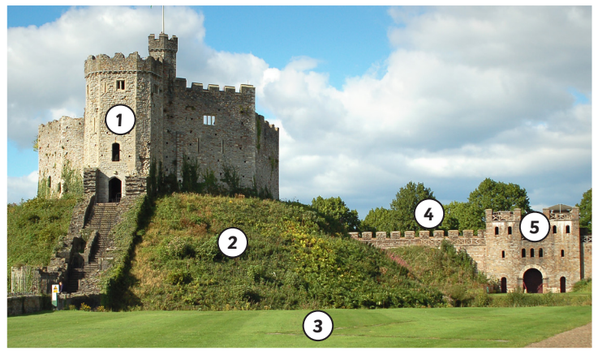
Later castles were built using stone so they were stronger and harder to attack.

Famous castles in the UK

The United Kingdom has many significant castles.



Parts of a castle



1 keep
2 motte
3 bailey
4 curtain wall
5 gatehouse

Jobs in a castle

Many different people lived and worked in a castle.

- The **Lord and his family** owned and lived in the castle.
- The **steward** was in charge of running the castle.
- The **knights** defended the castle and fought for their lord.
- The **ladies-in-waiting** looked after the ladies who lived in the castle.
- The **cooks** prepared the food.
- The **gong scourer** cleaned out the castle toilets.

Towers

A tower is a tall, narrow structure. Towers are built for many different purposes.

CN Tower, Toronto, Canada

Big Ben, London, England

Eiffel Tower, Paris, France

Tokyo Skytree, Tokyo, Japan

Tip: Print in A3.

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Isambard Kingdom Brunel

Isambard Kingdom Brunel was a famous engineer who built bridges, tunnels, railway lines, docks and ships during the Industrial Revolution.

Timeline

1806	Isambard Kingdom Brunel was born on 9th April in Portsmouth.
1820	He went to school in France.
1825	He and his father started to dig a tunnel under the River Thames in London.
1829	He won a competition to design the Clifton Suspension Bridge over the River Avon in Bristol.
1833	He started to build the Great Western Railway so that trains could carry people from London to Bristol.
1843	His huge, iron ship called the SS Great Britain sailed for the first time.
1843	People walked under the River Thames for the first time when the Thames Tunnel opened.
1854	Travellers used Paddington Railway Station in London for the first time.
1859	Isambard Kingdom Brunel died on 15th September, aged 53.

Bridges

A bridge is a structure built over a road, river or railway that allows people or vehicles to cross from one side to the other.

metal suspension bridge

concrete road bridge

stone railway bridge

rope footbridge

Tunnels

A tunnel structure is a long passage under the ground. Tunnels are usually built as a way of getting from one side of an obstacle to the other.

The Tunnel of Love links Klevan, Ukraine to Orzhiv and is surrounded by green arches.

The Thames Tunnel under the River Thames in London allows people to walk under the river.

Glossary

bailey	The courtyard inside the outer wall of a castle.
concrete	A very hard building material made by mixing cement, sand, small stones and water.
curtain wall	The outer wall that protects a castle.
engineer	A person who designs or builds structures such as tunnels, railways or bridges.
Industrial Revolution	The time when work started to be done more by machines in factories than by hand.
gatehouse	The entrance to a castle.
keep	The strong, central tower of a castle.
motte	A small hill in the middle of a castle on which a fort or keep is built tower or tunnel.
structure	Something that has been built from parts, like a large building.

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