



WESTON
MUSEUM

Medieval

The Middle Ages - or Medieval Times - in Europe was a long period of history from 500 AD to 1500 AD. That's 1000 years!

Medieval covers the time from the fall of the Roman Empire to the rise of the Ottoman Empire.

This was a time of castles and peasants, guilds and monasteries, cathedrals and crusades. Great leaders such as Joan of Arc were part of the Middle Ages as well as major events such as the Black Death.

Throughout this booklet, we will be exploring a few of the key events that occurred during Medieval Times.



The Battle of Hastings

It may have taken place over 950 years ago, but the Battle of Hastings remains one of the most famous battles in English history.

The bloody battle took place on the 14 October 1066. It was fought between William of Normandy and King Harold - the King of England - and it was the English throne that was at stake.

The Normans were victorious, beating the Anglo-Saxons. King Harold was killed and William of Normandy became King. Norman language and culture then began to influence the country and changed the future of England.





The Battle of Hastings



How many soldiers did
William of Normandy have?

How many soldiers did
King Harold have?



DID YOU KNOW? Although we refer to it as the Battle of Hastings, the battle actually took place about 6.5 miles northwest of Hastings at Senlac Hill, now known as Battle.



Declaration of Magna Carta

What is the Magna Carta?

The Magna Carta was a document that gave certain rights to the English people. It stated that a person could not be punished for a crime unless they were lawfully convicted.

The Magna Carta stated that the King must follow the law, he could not do as he wanted.



When was the Magna
Carta signed?

Declaration of Magna Carta

Who signed the Magna
Carta?



DID YOU KNOW? The 800th Anniversary of
the signing of the Magna Carta was on 15
June 2015.

Hundred Years' War

The Hundred Years' War was fought between France and England during the Middle Ages.



How long did the war last for?

The war started because Charles IV of France died in 1328 without a son. Edward III of England then believed he had the right to become the new King of France through his mother.

France did not want a foreign King. The two countries went to war because of this disagreement.

Hundred Years' War

The English continued to capture land in France until Joan of Arc led the French army to success.

France had a diplomatic win in 1435 with the Treaty of Arras.

When did the war end?
(which year)



Joan of Arc



What is Joan of Arc the Patron Saint of?

Joan of Arc is famous for leading the French against the English when she was just 17 years old, during the Hundred Years' War.

How old was Joan when she had her first vision?



In her visions, she was told that she was to lead the French in a battle against the English.



Joan of Arc

When Joan turned 16, she decided it was time to listen to her visions and take action. The King eventually let Joan accompany a convoy of soldiers.

She practiced for battle and became a proficient fighter and an expert horse rider.

Joan was eventually captured and later sold to the English, where they gave her a trial to prove she was a religious heretic.

They could not find anything wrong with her except that she dressed like a man. They said this was enough to deserve death and announced her guilty. She was only 19 years old when she died.

DID YOU KNOW? Joan was a courageous leader, but she never went to school and couldn't read or write.



The Black Death

The Black Death was a pandemic plague that spread throughout Europe in the 14th Century. It is thought that the plague wiped out half of the population of Europe, with some estimates saying that up to 200 million people lost their lives.



What was the Black Death also referred to as?

The Black Death

It is believed that the Black Death originated from Central Asia, and was caused by harmful bacteria that were brought to Europe via the fleas living on black rats.

The black rats entered Europe on trade ships that travelled between Europe and Asia.

When was the Black Death the most prominent?



Richard the Lionheart

Richard I (or Richard the Lionheart) was King of England and the central figure during the Third Crusade. He was also Duke of Normandy, Aquitaine, Gascony, Count of Anjou, Nantes, Poitiers, Maine, Lord of Cyprus and Overlord of Brittany.



When was Richard the
Lionheart born?

He was an educated man who loved to write poetry. He took a keen interest in matters pertaining to military and was amazingly talented.

Richard the Lionheart

During his 10-year long reign, Richard remained busy in military campaigns and the Third Crusade. He was captured in Vienne in 1192 by Duke of Austria, Leopold V, while travelling back through Central Europe.

When did Richard the
Lionheart die?



He was attacked by a crossbow man of his own army, who wanted to take revenge from Richard for killing his family. The wound turned gangrenous and finally led to Richard's death.



Richard the Lionheart



What did Richard do as a
last act of mercy?



Answers

The Battle of Hastings



How many soldiers did William of Normandy have?

15,000

How many soldiers did King Harold have?



5,000

Declaration of Magna Carta



When was the Magna Carta signed?

1215

Who signed the Magna Carta?



King John

Hundred Years' War



How long did the war last for?

It lasted 116 years.

When did the war end?
(which year)



1453

Joan of Arc



What is Joan of Arc the Patron Saint of?

Patron Saint of France and of soldiers.

How old was Joan when she had her first vision?



Joan was around 12 years old when she had a vision. She saw Michael the Archangel.

The Black Death



What was the Black Death also referred to as?

The 'Great Plague' and the 'Great Mortality'. In London, England, it was named the 'Bubonic Plague'.

When was the Black Death the most prominent?



In the years 1346 to 1353.

Richard the Lionheart



When was Richard the Lionheart born?

8 September 1157

What did Richard do as a last act of mortality?



Richard forgave his attacker and freed him.