

Social studies

Grade 7

Life in the Middle Ages

Explore castles, the feudal system and daily life in medieval Europe.



I can explain the feudal system and describe medieval life.



1



The feudal pyramid

Number from 1 (top) to 4 (bottom).

☐

Knights

☐

King

☐

Peasants and serfs

☐

Nobles and lords

2

**Match up**

Draw a line to match each pair.

☐

Feudalism

☐

Serf

☐

Monastery

☐

Black Death



A. where monks lived, prayed and copied books



B. land given in return for loyalty and service



C. a plague that killed millions in the 1300s



D. a peasant tied to the lord's land

3

**True or false**

Circle true or false.

1. Most people in the Middle Ages were peasants.

True

False

2. Knights were usually poor farmers.

True

False

3. Castles were built for defence.

True

False

4

**Medieval words**

Use the word bank to complete each sentence.

WORD BANK

castle

knight

monks

guild

harvest

1. A lord lived in a _____ with thick stone walls.

2. A boy trained as a page and a squire before he became a _____.

3. In monasteries, _____ copied books by hand.

4. Craftsmen in towns joined a _____ that set prices and trained apprentices.

5. Peasants worked hardest at _____ time, when the crops were gathered in.

5

**Pick the answer**

Circle the right answer.

1. Roughly when were the Middle Ages in Europe?

A about 500 to 1500

B about 1600 to 1900

C about 100 BC to 400 AD

2. What did peasants usually give their lord?

A gold coins every day

B part of their crops and work on his land

C horses and armour

3. Who was the head of the Catholic Church?

A the king

B the abbot

C the Pope

4. Why did many medieval towns have walls?

A for defence

B for decoration

C to keep out the rain

6

**The three estates**

Write each person in the right box.

knight

serf

lord

farmer

bishop

monk

Those who pray

Those who fight

Those who work

7

**From page to knight**

Number the steps from 1 to 4.

☐

Be dubbed a knight, at about age 21.

☐

Serve as a page in a lord's castle, from about age 7.

☐

Swear loyalty and serve the lord in battle.

☐

Become a squire and look after a knight's horse and armour, from about age 14.

8



Think and write

How did the Black Death change life for peasants who survived it?

How did it go?



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Answer key

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A Monastery



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