

WARWICK CASTLE



Key stage 1&2
MEDIAEVAL SOCIETY
The Black Death



- 1421**
Earl of Warwick supervises trial of Joan of Arc
- 1445**
Henry de Beauchamp becomes Duke of Warwick
- 1449**
Richard Neville becomes Earl of Warwick
- 1471**
Richard Neville (Kingmaker), dies at the Battle of Barnet
- 1478**
George, Duke of Clarence imprisoned and killed
- 1540**
Further development at the Castle - including a new roof for kitchens and building of the spy tower.



The Earls of Warwick



De Newburgh



Duplessis



Maudult



De Beachamp



Neville



Plantagenet



Dudley



Rich



Greville

Teacher notes

Mediaeval Society

THE BLACK DEATH

This section focuses on one of the major events of mediaeval history that affected the whole of society.

The reference to the Black Death during your visit can be found in the Castle Dungeon.

PRE VISIT ACTIVITIES:

- Explore the Black Death considering the living conditions at the time, people's beliefs in what caused it, its symptoms and the effects it had on the people who experienced it.
- Cause and Effect Activity (Worksheet 1) - pupils in groups should sort these cards into cause and effects of the Black Death. An extension of this would be to sort them into short and long term effects.

DURING THE VISIT ACTIVITIES:

There are no activities to be done on the day for this section due to the dark nature of the Castle Dungeon attraction which this is based on. Please see the *Teacher's Introduction to Warwick Castle* for further information on the suitability of the Castle Dungeon.

POST VISIT ACTIVITIES:

• Creative Writing:

Ask pupils to write a letter of advice to a 14th Century peasant living in Warwick. The peasant can either be suffering from the Black Death or trying to avoid the illness.

• Art:

Ask pupils to create a picture of a plague victim, including all the symptoms they have learnt about. Any cures can also be included.





The Black Death

Sort the below cards into cause and effects of the Black Death.

Lack of Medicine	People travelling from town to town within Britain	Animals Dying
Ignorance of doctors	Increased taxes with fewer people to pay them	Lack of sanitation
Boats travelling from country to country	Churches closing as many priests die after visiting the sick	Population decrease
Changes in farming. Lords kept animals instead of growing crops as they required fewer workers to look after them.	Dirty, crowded living conditions	Crops rotting in the fields
Death	Fleas passed the disease from rats to humans	Bad smelling air
Stealing from empty shops and houses	Dirty streets full of rubbish and excrement	Labour shortages resulting in workers being able to demand higher wages from lords.

