Knowledge organiser

# Towers, Tunnels and Turrets

## Castles

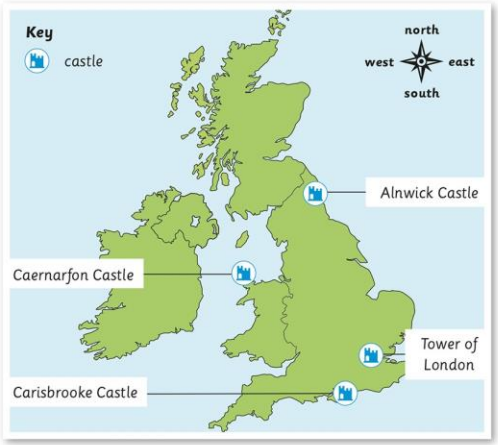
A castle is a type of structure, often built hundreds of years ago by an important person, such as a lord or king. A castle helped the lord or king to control his land and protect his family and riches from invading enemies. Most castles were built on hills and had high walls and towers.

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

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 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. Here are some famous towers from around the world.

CN Tower, Toronto, Canada

Big Ben, London, England

Eiffel Tower, Paris, France

Tokyo Skytree, Tokyo, Japan



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**Key Questions**

**How have castles changed through the ages?**

**Why is a designer or inventor important?**

**Why are towers tall?**

**Book List**

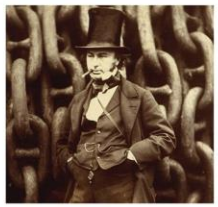
Rapunzel (Best loved classics)
Sarah Gibb

The Three Billy Goats Gruff (First loved stories)
Mara Alperin

The Tunnel
Anthony Brown

## Isambard Kingdom Brunel

Isambard Kingdom Brunel (1806–1859) was one of the most inventive engineers of the 19th century. Brunel is responsible for building some amazing structures.



## Isambard's structures

Isambard Kingdom Brunel designed and built bridges, tunnels, railway lines, docks and ships.

Thames Tunnel

Clifton Suspension Bridge

Great Western Railway

Maidenhead Railway Bridge

## 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. Bridges can be built from a range of materials.

metal suspension bridge

concrete road bridge

stone railway bridge

rope footbridge

## Tunnels

A tunnel 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 Channel Tunnel is a tunnel under the sea that links England and France.

The Zion-Mount Carmel Tunnel in the USA is a tunnel through a mountain.

## Glossary

| | |
|---|---|
| **bailey** | The courtyard or flat ground, 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, around 1760, 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. |
| **moat** | A deep, wide ditch surrounding a castle, fort or town, typically filled with water as a defence against attack. |
| **motte** | A small hill in the middle of a castle on which a fort or keep is built. |
| **structure** | Something that has been built from parts, like a large building. |

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