

## Terrific Topic—week 2

**Wednesday pm:** History of Castles: the Stone Keep

**WAL:** About significant historical events, people and places (HIST)

To identify and name a variety of everyday materials, including wood, plastic, glass, metal, water and rock; describe the simple physical properties of a variety of everyday materials (SCI)



Show your child the 'How Did Castles Change Powerpoint - Stone Keep Castle' - discuss what they can remember of the materials used in Motte and Bailey castles, and discuss how and why these materials changed (see slide 4—the Normans were not invading and battling by the 1100s—they were victorious and therefore had more time to build their castles, but they were still conquerors and thus had to display their power and be able to defend the lands they had won). Discuss the similarities and differences between the two types of castle (Keep, bailey, gatehouse etc, though now more fortified and made out of stone; curtain wall replaces wooden palisade; gatehouse now fortified with portcullis; castle walls have arrow slits/arrow loops and parapets etc).

Your child's task today is to paint a watercolour painting of a Stone Keep castle, with its curtain wall. Model to your child how to *lightly* sketch the castle in pencil first. At school we have learnt that we never use the paint directly from the paintbox: the children have learnt how to lift the watercolour onto their mixing palette with their wet brush and add more paint or water, or mix colours on their palette to get the colour they want before putting it to paper. They have also learnt to wash their brush between colours to keep the colours of the paintbox clean.



**Thursday pm:** World Book Day - See **Charlie Mackesy Art PDF**

**Friday pm:** Make a working drawbridge/Portcullis

Start off by watching the short video on the website Video Page called "How do you make a Stone Keep Castle?" (this will answer your question about the lots and lots and lots of bricks, Felix!). [What were Stone Keep Castles? - YouTube](#)

Secondly have a look at the "How do you defend a Castle?" video (also on the Video Page) which tells you about how the design of a castle helps it to be strong and stops attackers: look out for battlements, moat, murder holes, drawbridge, turrets etc—can you spot any of the words you learnt last week? There's also a third video of a lego drawbridge and portcullis if you'd like to look at it (suggest you mute it—very annoying commentary).

For today's task I'd like to challenge you to make a working drawbridge and portcullis! In order to have an opening door, you'll have to make extra flaps at the side of the drawbridge to stick it on - I hope the instructions are clear. See **Make a working drawbridge/Portcullis PDF**.

