

Tower Power: The Norman Conquest (Tower Power)

Teacher's notes

Length: 60 minutes

Meeting Point:

Please meet your session presenter at the entrance to the **Medieval Palace**. Please arrive at least 5 minutes before your session is due to start.

About the session:

This drama session encourages pupils to find out more about William I – both as a conqueror and king. Through drama and role-play activities, pupils will gain a better understanding of the events which lead to the Norman Conquest and its impact. Using the White Tower as a source of evidence, pupils will analyse the purpose and impact of the fortress as a device of conquest and consolidation of power.

Key Learning points:

- Who the Normans were and why they were successful conquerors. They changed the country but also adapted to it.
- Features of the White Tower as a castle and palace, and how these features enabled William I to gain power and keep control.
- Encourage empathy and comparisons between the lives of those in 1066 and today.

National Curriculum links KS2:

History:

- Develop the appropriate use of historical terms.
- Understanding the methods of historical enquiry, how evidence is used to make historical claims.
- A theme in British history that extends chronological knowledge beyond 1066 (invasion and conquest).

English – spoken language:

- Articulate and justify answers, arguments and opinions.
- Use spoken language to develop understanding through speculating, hypothesising, imagining and exploring ideas.

Design and Technology:

- Understand how key events and individuals in design and technology have helped shape the world.

Preparing for your session:

In order for your pupils to enjoy this session, we would request that, where possible, they are aware of the following subjects and concepts prior to their visit:

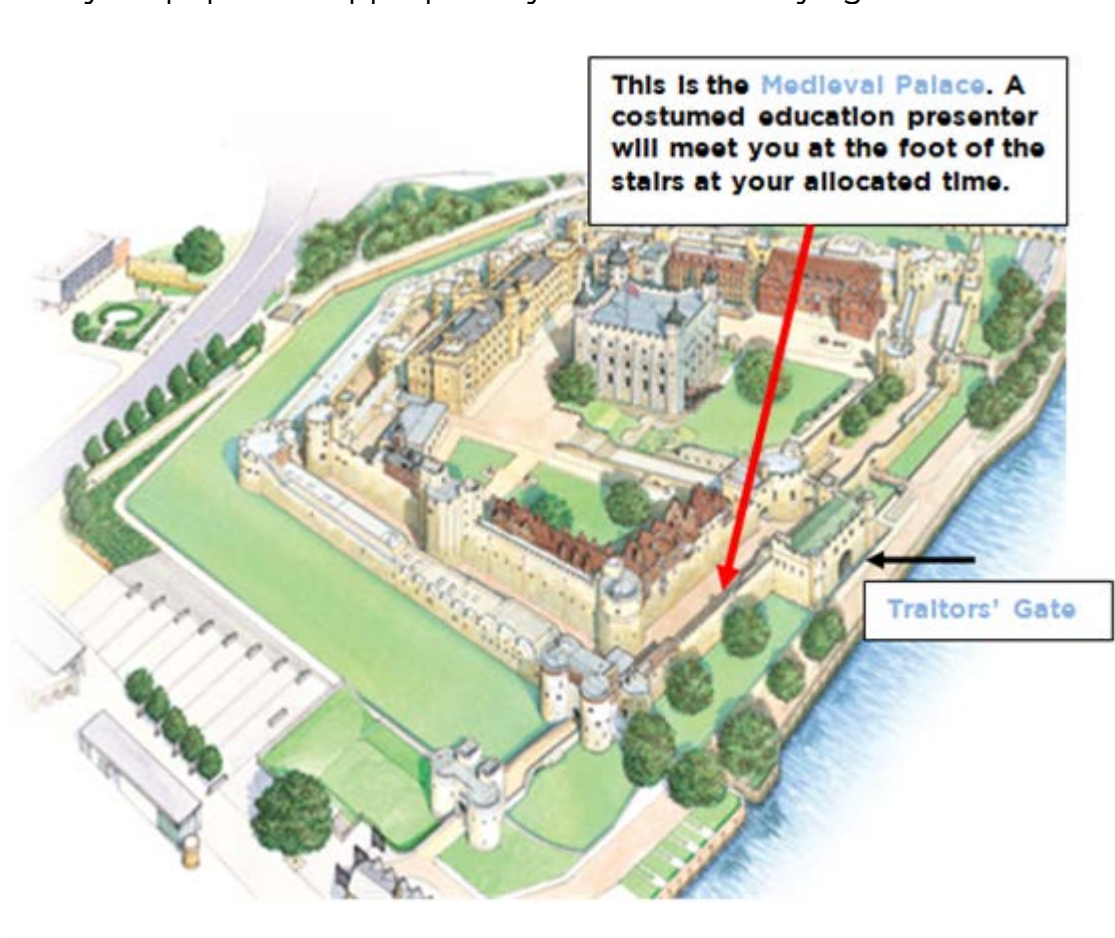


- Saxon claimants to the throne prior to the Norman Conquest
- William I
- Architectural features of Norman castles

During your session:

Please note that the 1:10 staff to pupil ratio which we ask for throughout your visit to the Tower of London still applies during your teaching session. We ask that sufficient adults remain with the group as they will be encouraged to join in which the session activities. For health and safety reasons, our workshops are a maximum of 35 pupils.

For your information, this session will take place on our main visitor route which will remain open to the public during your time with us. Please ensure that your pupils are appropriately dressed for varying weather conditions.



On entry to the Tower of London via the **Group Ticket** entrance, the **Medieval Palace** is on your left, immediately after **Traitors' Gate**.

