



HISTORIC ROYAL PALACES

TOWER OF LONDON

PRISON TRAIL

KS1 & KS2
SELF-DIRECTED VISITS



SPACE TO STIR AND BE STIRRED

**TOWER OF LONDON • HAMPTON COURT PALACE • BANQUETING HOUSE
KENSINGTON PALACE • KEW PALACE • HILLSBOROUGH CASTLE AND GARDENS**

WHITE TOWER

LOOK UP AT THE WHITE TOWER FROM THE ARCHES NEAR THE RAVEN'S CAGES



Can you spot the two small windows on the top floor?

These windows are the only original ones left. They would be familiar to the first prisoner who escaped from the Tower over 900 years ago!

Ranulf Flambard was the Tower's first prisoner and he was held in the White Tower after it was completed in 1100.

He was also the first escapee! He managed to smuggle a rope into his room in a barrel of wine and climb out of a window before fleeing on a horse.



RANULF FLAMBAR



Imagine you are about to climb down a rope from the top of the White Tower. Tell a partner how you feel.

USEFUL EVIDENCE SCORE:

5

QUEENS HOUSE



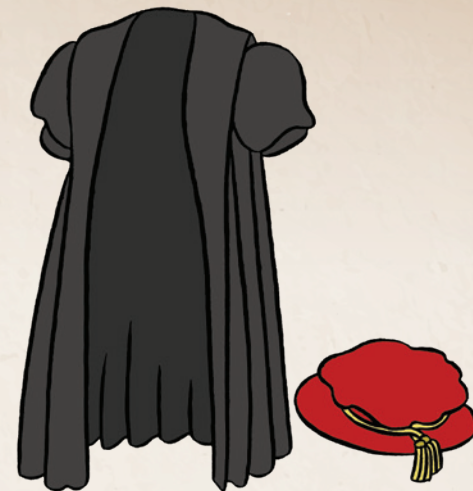
Find a Tudor, timber framed building which is guarded by a soldier.

This is the Queen's House, which changes its name depending on whether there is a king or queen on the throne.

Famous prisoners held in this building include Lady Jane Grey and Guy Fawkes, who was questioned here about his role in the Gunpowder Plot.



Look up at the first floor window on the right. The room inside is the Council Chamber, where Guy Fawkes was interviewed.



One of the Tower's best escape stories happened from inside this building. In 1716, Lord Nithsdale dressed up as one of his female visitors and covered his face as if he was crying. He then simply walked out of the Tower!



Imagine you are a prisoner in the Tower. What would your escape plan be?

USEFUL EVIDENCE SCORE:

5



UPPER SALT TOWER

HEAD TOWARDS THE NEW ARMOURIES CAFÉ.
FIND THE COURTYARD NEXT TO THE ELEPHANT
SCULPTURE AND CLIMB THE STAIRS



Look for religious prisoner carvings in the Upper Salt Tower. This includes crosses, hands, feet and the symbol IHS, which stands for the Society of Jesus.



This building was used for holding prisoners when Elizabeth I was on the throne. Most of the people imprisoned at that time were here because they had different religious beliefs to the queen!



Do you have a religion or strong beliefs? Imagine being put in prison just because the king or queen has different views to you!

USEFUL EVIDENCE SCORE:

5

BEAUCHAMP TOWER - UPSTAIRS



Can you find a carving that looks like a bell?

Clue: it's by a window.

Thomas Abel was a prisoner in 1533. His crime was to say that Henry VIII's divorce to Katherine of Aragon was against the law. He carved this symbol to represent his surname.



If you were to design a picture to represent your name, what would it look like? Doodle it here:

USEFUL EVIDENCE SCORE:

5

BEAUCHAMP TOWER - DOWNSTAIRS



Look at the exhibition of Tower prisoners. Some stories may surprise you!

Although the Tower wasn't built as a prison, it was used as one for hundreds of years.



Imagine you are a prisoner in this room and you are looking at the graffiti carved by prisoners who were there before you. How does it make you feel?

USEFUL EVIDENCE SCORE:

5

CEKOLD PU TA HET WETOR.
ETC EM TUO

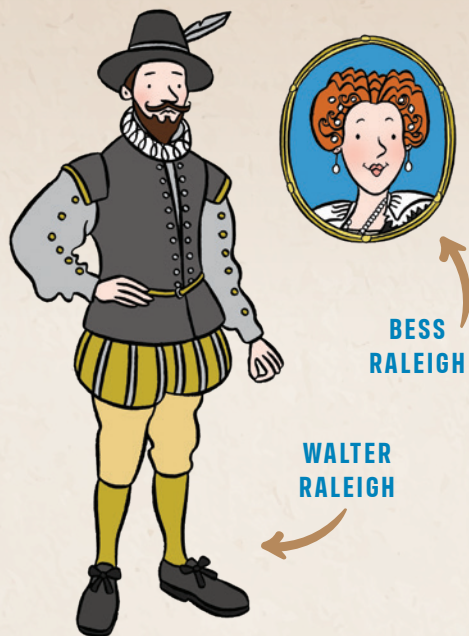
BLOODY TOWER

HEAD TO THE LEFT OF THE QUEEN'S HOUSE AND ENTER THE BLOODY TOWER



Can you find out which famous explorer was once a prisoner in this building?

Walter Raleigh was bought to the Tower as a prisoner three times. Like other high-status prisoners, although he was not allowed to leave the Tower, he lived here quite comfortably. His family could stay with him, he had a library of books and he grew exotic plants and herbs in the garden!



Walter Raleigh used to create cordials and medicines using herbs from the Tower garden. Have a look at them and imagine what you could make.

USEFUL EVIDENCE SCORE:

5



MEMORIAL SITE



Look for a glass cushion near the chapel of St Peter Ad Vincula

This is a memorial to the people who were imprisoned and later executed inside the Tower walls.

Most executions took place near Tower Hill and were public events. Only the most important prisoners were executed here – their names are carved on the memorial.

TRAITOR'S GATE

FIND TRAITOR'S GATE ON WATER LANE

Traitors Gate was originally called the Water Gate, as it was the main entrance to the Tower from the river.



How many names can you find? Does this number surprise you? Tell a partner what you think of the memorial.

USEFUL EVIDENCE SCORE:

5



Do you know what a traitor is? Discuss your ideas with a partner.

USEFUL EVIDENCE SCORE:

5



Draw an example of the evidence you found that shows us the Tower was a prison.

**WELL DONE FOR FINDING
OUT ABOUT THE TOWER'S
ROLE AS A PRISON!**

If you have more time, you
can learn about its other
two important roles as a
FORTRESS and **PALACE**.