

Who killed the Princes in the Tower?

Chronology

9 April 1483	Edward IV dies.
19 April 1483	Earl Rivers hears of Edward IV's death and heads to London with young king, so that Edward can be crowned. Richard, Duke of Gloucester also hears of his brother's death and rushes to catch Edward and Earl Rivers before they reach London. He meets them at Stony Stratford, takes Edward and sends Earl Rivers to prison in Pontefract. Rivers is later executed.
1 May 1483	Elizabeth Woodville seeks sanctuary in Westminster Abbey with her daughters and son Richard, Duke of York.
4 May 1483	Edward's coronation is delayed by Richard, Duke of Gloucester.
19 May 1483	By this date Edward is known to be in the Tower.
14 June 1483	William Hastings is accused of treason at the Tower, after Richard, Duke of Gloucester fears Hastings is conspiring against him with the Woodvilles. Hastings is executed in the Tower without trial.
16 June 1483	Richard, Duke of Gloucester sends the Archbishop of Canterbury and troops to his Westminster Abbey. Elizabeth Woodville gives up Richard, Duke of York, and he joins his brother Edward at the Tower.
22 June 1483	Dr Ralph Shaa preaches a sermon claiming Edward IV and Elizabeth Woodville were not legally married. He declares 'bastard slips shall not take root', meaning the princes are illegitimate and Edward cannot become king.
6 July 1483	Richard III is crowned king.
Mid-July 1483	Last ever sighting of the Princes alive in the Tower.
1485	Richard III is killed at the Battle of Bosworth field. The new Tudor dynasty, led by Henry VII, is founded.
1490	Perkin Warbeck claims to be Richard, Duke of York, and heir to the English throne. He is eventually imprisoned and executed as an impostor.
1674	The bodies of two children are discovered in the Tower of London under a staircase leading to the chapel of the White Tower. They were thought to have been the Princes and are placed in Westminster Abbey.
2012	The body of Richard III is discovered beneath a car park in Leicester, where the Greyfriars Church once stood.
2014	Debate continues about where Richard III's remains should be buried.

