

Creative Home Learning Ideas

Peasants, Princes and Pestilence



What a successful first term the children have had in Year 5! We hope that they enjoyed learning about the highs and lows of Victorian life and in particular will remember their day as a Victorian school pupil at the Bradford Industrial Museum. It was great to end the autumn term on such a high note with our fantastic Christmas Production – well done to everyone for taking part in one way or another.

Our next topic takes us further back into history (14th century!) and will allow us to explore the gruesome Black Death and to contrast the lives of peasants and medieval knights. Below are some ideas for home learning based around our new topic. Please read the ideas with your child and let them choose which activities they would like to complete at home with you or on their own over the coming weeks. We would like the children to complete at least 2 activities. The work should be handed in before **Wednesday 20th February**.

- Search your local library to find out if the plague ('*The Black Death*') of the 14th century affected a village or town near you. What information can you find out?
- Write a letter to a child of the 21st century, imagining you are a peasant child of the 14th century. What could you tell them about your life?
- Design a coat of arms for your family. What symbols would you use and what would they represent? What would be your family motto?
- Find out what happens when something decomposes. Place an apple core, orange or grape in a transparent container and watch as it decomposes. Document what happens.
- Use a map of the UK to identify castles of the Middle Ages. Make a scrapbook or journal to research facts about one of them. Be prepared to present your scrapbook to others.
- Make a model rat out of papier mâché. Paint it to make it look realistic. Take a picture of your rat in different places but try not to scare anyone!

These activities are intended to be fun and to provide inspiration to build on learning from school. Please just call in and ask any of the Year 5 team if you have any queries.

In addition to this, we will continue to set short weekly tasks to build on maths learning, to master spelling patterns and to work our way through the 50 spelling challenge words. If your child struggles with any of the tasks, please let us know so we can help them further.

Thank you for your continued support.