

The Magnificent Tudor Era: A Time of Discovery and Change

Step into the past with Ellie the Elephant – let's uncover the secrets of the Tudors!

- The Tudor dynasty began in 1485 when Henry VII won the Battle of Bosworth, marking the end of the long-standing Wars of the Roses.
- Tudor society was strictly ordered, with the King or Queen at the top, followed by the nobility, the gentry, and finally the common people who worked as farmers or traders.
- Exploration flourished during this era; brave sailors like Sir Francis Drake set out on massive galleons to map the world and bring back new goods like potatoes and tobacco.
- Food for the wealthy was often a feast of roasted meats and imported spices, while poorer families mostly ate pottage, a thick soup made from grains and vegetables.
- King Henry VIII is perhaps the most famous Tudor monarch, known for his six marriages and for breaking away from the Roman Catholic Church to start the Church of England.
- Queen Elizabeth I, Henry's daughter, ruled for 44 years. This time is often called the 'Golden Age' because of the great growth in English drama, poetry, and overseas trade.

Did you know? Did you know? During the Tudor period, William Caxton introduced the first printing press to England. This invention changed history by making books cheaper and easier to produce, which meant more people could learn to read and share new ideas!

Key vocabulary: Monarchy · Tapestry · Galleon · Printing Press · Reformation · Dynasty