

The Kingdom of Benin: Flashcard Challenge

Learning objective: To recall and understand key facts about the Kingdom of Benin, an influential West African civilisation.

Read the front of each flashcard and see if you can remember the answer before checking the back. Ellie the Elephant has helped put these together to improve your historical memory!

Where was the Kingdom of Benin located?

In the region now known as Nigeria, in West Africa.

What was the title given to the ruler of the Kingdom of Benin?

The Oba.

What was the capital of the Kingdom of Benin called?

Benin City.

Which material were the famous Benin plaques made from?

Bronze (or brass).

What were the skilled artists who made the plaques called?

Guilds of craftsmen.

What surrounded Benin City to help protect the people?

Massive earthen walls and moats.

What language did the people of the Benin Kingdom speak?

Edo.

What did the Kingdom of Benin trade with Europeans to become wealthy?

Goods such as pepper, ivory, and cloth.

Why were the bronze plaques important to the Oba?

They recorded the history and achievements of the Oba and his court.

True or False: The Kingdom of Benin was famous for having organised, paved streets.

True.

What did the city's design suggest about the Kingdom of Benin?

It was a highly organised, advanced, and powerful civilisation.