

## The Tudors and Stuarts

### Starter:

- What do we already know about the Tudors and Stuarts?

Pupils can recap ideas that they have already learnt during lessons or things they may know from their own knowledge for example famous kings and queens

### Background:

- When were the Tudors and Stuarts on the throne?

Tudors - 1485 to 1603

Stuarts - 1603 to 1714

- Lots happened during the reign of the Tudors and Stuarts. It was one of the most exciting times in British history. Can you name any key events?
  - Henry VIII and his divorce
  - Spanish Armada, 1588
  - Guy Fawkes and Gunpowder Plot, 1605
  - Beheading of King Charles I, 1649
  - English Civil War
  - Restoration of the King, 1660
  - Great Plague, 1665
  - Great Fire of London, 1666

### The Tudors (slides 2-10)

We are going to start by looking at the reign of the Tudors

The Tudors ruled for 118 years from 1485 to 1603.

- Do you know why the period is called the Tudor period?

It is named after the Tudor family.

**Slide 2** - The first Tudor king was Henry VII. His name was Henry Tudor.

- Do you know where Henry Tudor was from?

He was Welsh and was born at Pembroke Castle. His grandfather was from Anglesey in North Wales. He became King by defeating Richard III at the Battle of Bosworth in 1485.

- Henry VII had a very famous son. Do you know who that was?

Henry VIII

- Do you know who this is?

**Slide 3** – This is Henry VIII, one of the most recognisable figures from British history.

This is a drawing of Henry VIII on his throne from a document dated 1545. In the document, Henry VIII sells Ewenny Priory and other lands of the monastery of St Peter, Gloucester, in Glamorgan to Sir Edward Carne on payment of £727 6s 4d.

Henry VIII is selling off land belonging to monasteries. We call this the Dissolution of the Monasteries. He broke away from the Catholic Church in Rome because he wanted to divorce his first wife Catherine of Aragon and marry Anne Boleyn. He closed the monasteries to get their wealth and became head of the Church in England, a protestant church.

**Slide 4** – This is the whole of the document

- What is the document made from?

This document is made from a material called parchment, which was used before paper was invented.

- Do you know what parchment is made from?

Parchment is made from animal skin, most often goat or sheep.

- What language is it written in?

This document is written in Latin, which was the official language of government and law in Tudor times.

The drawing of Henry is drawn in the initial H of his name Henricus, which is the Latin for Henry.

**Slide 5** - Here is a portrait of Henry VIII. You can compare this to the drawing on the document and see that it's quite a good likeness.

- What is on the bottom of the document?

**Slide 6** - There is a seal at the bottom

- Do you know why they put seals on documents?

It shows the monarch's approval of the document and was used to authenticate the document. They were sometimes used instead of a signature. They could also be used to physically seal the document or letter for security reasons; if anyone opened the document the seal would be broken.

In this case the seal is attached to the bottom of the document with plaited silk thread. It is called a pendant seal. Pendant seals have two sides.

- What does the seal show?

On one side we see the King on the throne holding the orb and sceptre; the other side shows him going into battle on horseback. The seal was designed to show him as a powerful King.

Pendant seals have two sides and this one is special. It is called the great seal, which is the seal used by kings and queens. A new great seal was made for each new reign and all the old ones broken up and destroyed once the reign had ended. It would be made from a mould called a 'matrix'. The great seal was guarded by the Chancellor.

- Do you know what the seal is made from?

Seals are usually made from beeswax. The wax would be poured into the matrix.

- Seals are often missing from documents. Why do you think this is?

They are fragile as the wax gets brittle the older it gets. They often break and fall off.

The great seal of Henry VIII reads Henry the Eighth, by the grace of God, of England and France and Ireland King, Defender of the Faith, and on Earth, of the English and Irish Church, Supreme Head.

- What is the most famous thing we remember about Henry VIII?

His six wives

- Can you name them and what happened to them?

Divorced, beheaded, died, divorced, beheaded, survived

All boys should come home please

Aragon (Catherine of Aragon)

Boleyn (Anne Boleyn)

Seymour (Jane Seymour)

Cleves (Anne of Cleves)

Howard (Catherine Howard)

Parr (Catherine Parr)

- Can you name another famous Tudor King or Queen?

**Slide 7** – This is a portrait of Elizabeth I

- What do you know about Elizabeth I?

She was the daughter of Henry VIII and Anne Boleyn and was born in 1533.

- Do you know what happened to her mother?

Anne Boleyn was beheaded when Elizabeth was only 2 years and 8 months old. Elizabeth had a troubled childhood, being at one time imprisoned in the Tower of London. However, when her half-sister Mary died in 1558 she became Queen at the age of 25.

Many historians believe she was one of our greatest monarchs.

One of the most dramatic events during her reign was the defeat of the Spanish Armada in 1588, when her forces saved the country from invasion. It was also a time of exploration when adventurers like Sir Francis Drake and Sir Walter Raleigh sailed around the world finding new trade routes to increase the country's wealth. Theatre was flourishing and William Shakespeare began to write his plays.

**Slide 8** - Here is a document from 12 June 1600, near the end of Elizabeth's reign. In the document she is confirming certain powers to the Burgesses of Cardiff. These were the people who ran the town at the time.

The document is made of parchment. It shows lots of wear and tear and someone has written on it in biro! It has also got drawing pin holes in it.

It is not as decorative as the one for Henry VIII. There is no portrait of the Queen drawn in the initial letter of her name.

**Slide 9** - But it does have the great seal attached to it. On this document the seal is badly worn and although we can see that Elizabeth is shown sitting on the throne, her face has rubbed off. The seal was repaired in 1890.

**Slide 10** - We have another great seal of Elizabeth I and on one side she is shown on horseback, riding side saddle. The writing around the seal reads:

Elizabeth, by the grace of God, of England, France and Ireland, Queen, Defender of the Faith.

Elizabeth died in 1603 aged 69 years old. She never married and had no children. She was the last of the Tudor monarchs.

- Do you know who came to the throne after Elizabeth died?

The Stuarts

### The Stuarts (slides 11-19)

- Who were the Stuarts?

As Elizabeth I had no children the crown passed to her distant cousin, James VI of Scotland, who became James I of England.

The Stuarts reigned from 1603 to 1714 and there were seven Stuarts Kings and Queens during this time. Like the Tudor period they reigned over some of the most turbulent times in British history.

**Slide 11** - Here is a portrait of Charles I

- Do you know what happened to Charles I, who became King in 1625 after James I died?

He was beheaded in 1649.

During the 1640s the country was in turmoil. Charles I wanted to rule with absolute power and refused to listen to Parliament. He ruled for eleven years without calling Parliament and did many unpopular things like imposing taxes. Things got worse between the King and Parliament and ended in a Civil War.

- Who were the two sides fighting each other in the Civil War?

On one side were the Royalists, also known as Cavaliers, who supported the King. On the other side were Parliamentarians, or Roundheads, who supported Parliament and were against the King having greater powers.

The Civil War was fought during the 1640s. Battles were fought around Wales, including the Battle of St Fagans in 1648

- Do you know where St Fagans is? Have you been there?

St Fagan's is now the home of the National History Museum.

Some former parliamentarian soldiers had not been paid for a long time. They decided to fight for the Royalists. Several thousand parliamentarian soldiers were sent to South Wales to crush the rebellion. It ended in a parliamentary victory with over 200 soldiers dead and more than 3,000 captured.

**Slide 12** - Here is a letter written by Charles I in 1641/2 to Sir Henry Stradling, Captain of the ship Bonaventure.

The Stradlings were a local family who lived at St Donat's Castle in the Vale of Glamorgan. They supported the King. Charles I wrote several letters to Henry Stradling sending him commands.

- Can you read the writing in this letter? Can you tell what language it is written in?

English

- How do we know it is written by the King?

He signs it Charles R. Do you know what R stands for? Rex, which is Latin for King.

**Slide 13** - Charles I was beheaded in 1649 and Oliver Cromwell took charge of the country in place of the King. He was known as the Lord Protector. This is a portrait of Oliver Cromwell.

**Slide 14** – Here is a deed dated 1651/2 where he granted some land in Swansea (Orchard Close) to a man called Philip Jones.

- Can you see his signature? Who was Philip Jones?

**Slide 15** – This is a portrait of Philip Jones.

Colonel Philip Jones was born in Swansea around 1618. He became very important during the Civil War, supporting the Parliamentarians. He was Governor of Swansea and later of Cardiff. He fought at the Battle of St Fagans in 1648. He became Comptroller of the Household to Oliver Cromwell. He was MP for Glamorgan.

He was in charge of the funeral of Oliver Cromwell who died on 3 September 1658. Oliver Cromwell was given an extravagant state funeral.

**Slide 16** – This is the 'bill of wares' for the funeral of Oliver Cromwell. It shows the cost of material bought to clothe the mourners at the funeral and decorate the rooms for Oliver Cromwell's lying in state. Over 1,000 yards of cloth were bought for £1,573 11s 2d.

- What does the s and d stand for?

Shillings and pence

- How much money would this be today?

Use the online calculator to find out <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/currency/>

Or use the calculation that £1 in 1658 is worth £118 today, so the material cost £185,614

Some of the items bought:

- Three-pile black velvet at 31s per yard
- Two-pile black velvet at 28s per yard
- Purple velvet at 20s per yard
- Rich 'taffaty', white, crimson and blue at 14s per yard
- Rich 'sattine' at 15s per yard
- Flowered 'sarsnet' at 10s per yard
- Gold 'tishew' at 30s per yard

**Slide 17** – This is a drawing of Oliver Cromwell lying in state. He was buried privately before the state funeral so at the funeral a wax effigy was shown lying in state. According to his religious principles he wanted a simple burial. However, he was giving a lavish state funeral. London came to a standstill with a huge procession of mourners. Reports at the time mention his lying in state with the

rooms decorated with black and purple velvet trimmed with gold. This material is mentioned on the list purchased by Philip Jones for the funeral.

- What was the total cost of Cromwell's funeral?

Oliver Cromwell's funeral cost £60,000, which would be £7.1m today.

- Do you know what happened in 1660?

**Slide 18** - The Monarchy was restored and Charles II, son of Charles I, became King. This is a portrait of Charles II.

One of our 'treasures' is this document from the time of Charles II.

**Slide 19** - This is a document known as a 'letters patent'. This means it is an order from the King, usually appointing someone to a special job or office. Here the King is giving Thomas Windsor, alias, Thomas Hickman, the title of Baron Windsor. In 1682 he was also made Earl of Plymouth. He and his family owned St Fagan's Castle.

- What is it written on?

Parchment

- What symbols do you recognise around the writing?
  - Leeks, daffodils, three feathers – these represent Wales, and the three feathers can be seen today on the Welsh rugby shirt
  - Roses represent England and can be seen today on the English rugby shirt
  - Thistles represent Scotland and can be seen today on the Scottish rugby shirt
  - Harps, shamrocks – these represent Ireland, and the shamrock can be seen today on the Irish rugby shirt
- The colours are still bright. Why is this?

It has been kept out of the light.

- Can you read it?

It is written in Latin. Latin was used for official documents at this time, not English or Welsh.

- Is something missing from the document?

Think back to the Henry VIII document we looked at. What did that have on it? (a drawing of Henry VIII). A portrait of Charles II should be drawn on the document, inside the initial C of his name Carolus Secundus.

- Why might it have been removed?

Someone who did not support the return of the King might have rubbed out his face.

- What is the date of the document?

The date on the document is given as 1660. It says that this is the 12<sup>th</sup> year of the reign on Charles II. Now that the King is back in power they have ignored the years that there was no King and just carried on counting from 1649 when Charles I was beheaded.

- What else is missing?

The great seal is missing.

### Tudor and Stuart Life (slides 20-32)

We have looked at documents which tell us about the Kings and Queens who ruled the country. Now we will look at some documents which tell us something about how everyday people lived during Tudor and Stuart times.

- Which documents do you think might tell us what belongings people had and what furniture they owned?

If a person died they might have left a will to say who they wanted to leave their possessions to. A list of possessions is called an inventory. Imagine if you had to write a list of every item you had in your bedroom!

**Slide 20** - Here is an inventory from around 1663 which lists the belongings of Philip Jones, who we have come across before.

- Can you read any of the items?

In the great parlour:

- one couch of Turkey work (woven cloth made to look like Turkish rugs)
- Six great chairs
- One square table

In the Hall:

- Two tables
- Eleven wooden chairs

In the little parlour

- One great leather chair
- One wooden case for a clock
- Some terms we don't come across now: andirons (pair of horizontal bars, usually put either side of hearth to support burning wood).

In the great room over the hall

- Two bedsteads, one couch



In the little room at the stair head

- One bedstead
- two planks
- press for clothes (wardrobe)

In the cellar

- Three stands for beere

**Slide 21** - This inventory from 1680 lists items which might be found in the kitchen and table and bed linen

- Can you read any of these? Can you pick out familiar words?
  - Towels
  - Napkins
  - Lots of sheets made from different materials: Holland (fine linen), coarse canvas sheets, flaxen sheets
  - Callicoe counterpaines (bedspreads)
  - 4 mazereens (deep plates, usually made of metal)
  - 3 pie plates
  - 1 pastie plates
  - Pewter spoons
- Do you think people in Tudor or Stuart times had more or less possessions than we have now?

Many people would not have had any possessions to leave so their lives would not be recorded at all.

- How do we know what Tudor people wore?

It is difficult to find out what people wore as there were no photographs.

Rich people sometimes had their portraits painted.

**Slide 22** - Sometimes documents record what people were wearing. This is a receipt for items of clothing bought in the early seventeenth century. It mentions a Quafe and forehead cloth. A 'coif' was a headdress. This fitted tightly round the head over the hair.

**Slide 23** – Here on the left is an embroidered coif and forehead cloth. Most working women would have worn plain ones like the one on the right.

The receipt also mentions Bootehosetoppes

Boothose are linen stockings or boot liners worn in the seventeenth century to protect fine knitted stockings from wear. In the 1630s boothose could be trimmed with lace cuffes turned down over cuffed bucket-topped boots. They soon fell out of fashion.

It also lists Ruffes and Band stringes

A ruff was sometimes added to the cuffs of sleeves of clothes or tied around a neck. Laces or strings, called Band Strings were attached to the opening of the Tudor ruff which were tied together to secure the ruff or band around the neck.

**Slide 24** - Here is Elizabeth I wearing a ruff

During Tudor and Stuart times wealthier families found ways of showing how important they were. One way was to show that you could trace your family tree back many generations. They had family trees drawn up. They were called 'pedigrees'. Many tried to say they could trace the family back to the Princes of Wales, sometimes to Adam and Eve and to God.

**Slide 25** - Here is a pedigree for the Gwyn family of Llansannor drawn up some time around 1615. It would have cost a lot of money to have this drawn up. Coats of arms have been drawn onto the roll

- Why do you think the colours are still bright today?

It's been kept in the dark so it hasn't faded

- How do we know what foods Tudor people ate?

Tudor people used recipe books like we do, and some recipe books from Tudor times have survived.

**Slide 26** – This is a page from a recipe book written in the 17th century. It includes a mixture of recipes for cooking and also medicinal recipes. We do not know who wrote the recipes.

- What would you do if you were sick in Tudor and Stuart times?

Herbs and plants were used to heal people, and many of the recipes are for medicines. Life expectancy was only about 35 years old at this time. There were no doctors or NHS so people had to rely on 'cures' made using herbs and plants.

The book gives recipes for:

- the 'coffe'
- worms
- 'the itch'
- Bruises
- stitch in the side
- to make hair grow
- to treat a snake bite
- to expel wind out of the bladder!

Sometimes they used live animals in the recipes. To make oil of swallows you had to find 20 live swallows. Some recipes used garden worms.

It also has recipes for sweet dishes and cakes such as almond, lemon and orange.

There are recipes for preserving, drying and candying fruits.

- Why would they need to preserve things?

They had no means of freezing so had to preserve fruit and vegetables to keep them from rotting. They preserved them by making marmalade and jams, pickling vegetables and using salt and sugar.

- Look at this list of ingredients. Can you guess what they are making? What was it supposed to cure?

**Slide 26** - For a pearl in the eye (cataract)

Take ordinary garden snails, prick them with a needle, take the oil and drop one drop at a time that have the pearl in the eye.

For bleeding at the nose

Take the moss from the root of an old ash. Stop into the nostrils of the party that does bleed and it will help. It helped me when I was about 14 years of age when I had bled four days together without intermission.

**Slide 27** - To knit a bone in 6 days

Take such tails as hang upon the hassell (hazel) trees and the seeds of red docks, dry them and let the patient drink the powder thereof in oil or otherwise and he shall be whole.

For the itch

Take fresh butter as much as an apple, brimstone as much as will fill a walnut shell, vinegar a spoonful, mix them and therewith anoint the patient against the fire.

**Slide 28** - To make a salve for a scald or burn

Take a quarter of a pound of sheep's suet or the riddings of the sheep's gut for it is the best of the two and a quarter of a pound of fresh butter, then take a handful of sheep's dung and a handful of parsley and a head or two of houseleek, pound all these together and when they are well pounded set them on the fire and let them boil till it looks green, then strain it out and put it in the gally pot and keep it for your use.

Most people during this time would have lived in the country and made a living from the land.

**Slide 29** - Here is an inventory from 1686 which lists farming equipment and animals

- Can you read any of the items? What animals can you spot?
  - Seventeen fattening cattle
  - Eight working oxen

- Eight and twenty milch coves and heifers and two bulls
- Twelve calves
- 134 sheep of all sorts
- Sixty three lambs
- Eleaven horse beasts of all sorts
- Piggs and poultry
- Wheate in the barne
- Barley peas
- Beans in the ground
- Oats
- Butter, cheese and utensils in the dayrie
- Saddles, bridles and other necessaries in the stables

But towns were growing larger and industry was starting to take hold.

**Slide 30** - This is a set of accounts for 1686 to 1687

- What do you think these people were doing? Can you read any of the words?
  - Money for cole works
  - Payde to the workmen
  - Payde for making the place to lay downe the cole
  - Payde for a shovel
  - Payde for shoose for the cart
  - Payde for sawing of planks
  - Ropes
  - Bucket
  - Candles and filling of the pitt

They were some of the very earliest coal miners

- We have looked at lots of documents. What do you notice about the writing?

It's difficult to read

- How is it different to our writing?

Handwriting during Tudor and Stuart times was called Secretary Hand. It was used during the 16th and 17th centuries. Some of the letters and words you can make out, but others look different to the ones we write today.

**Slides 31-32** This is the Secretary hand alphabet

- What letters look the same?

Capital B looks similar to ours

- What letters look different?

C looks like an r. r looks like a w. Capital C is known as 'hot cross bun c' as it has a cross through it and looks like the bun!

- Are there any letters missing?

Can you see that 'j' is missing from the lower case letters. This was often written as we would write an 'i' eg jug would be iug.

- Can you write your name in secretary hand?

Use parchment coloured paper and copy from the secretary hand alphabets

#### Plenary ideas:

- What have you learnt that you found really interesting?
- What are the three most important words from this activity?
- What would you like to learn more about?

#### Possible activities based on this workshop:

- Write an inventory of your belongings
- Design a Civil War poster to encourage people to fight for or against the king – try to use words that persuade people!
- Design your own 'great seal' to attach to your important documents
- Ask the Archives for some Tudor and Stuart food recipes and try making your own Tudor and Stuart food