

The Mead Infant and Nursery School – History



Henry VIII Knowledge Organiser – Year 2

What should I already know?

- I know that many things about the lives of people in the past were different to people's lives today.
- I know that some people and events in the past changed people's lives in the UK or the world.
- I know that there are different sources of evidence about the past.

What will I know by the end of Year 2?

- Henry VIII was born on 28 June 1491, more than 500 years ago.
- He was a Tudor. Other Tudors were Henry VII, Edward VI, Mary I and Elizabeth I.
- Henry was the second son of Henry VII but his older brother, Arthur, died before becoming king.
- Henry VIII became king of England (and Wales) in 1509.
- Henry enjoyed music, hunting, archery, jousting and playing 'real' tennis. He ate rich food including lots of meat, white bread and sugary desserts. He drank wine and beer. Poor Tudors ate brown bread and a soup made of vegetables called Pottage. They hardly had any meat and no sugary food. Football was a game for the poor but Henry did have his own football boots!
- He married his brother's widow, Catherine of Aragon, who was Spanish and a Catholic. Henry was Catholic too.
- Henry VIII needed a son to be his heir but Catherine only had a baby girl, Mary (later Queen Mary 1).
- Henry VIII asked the Pope to annul his marriage to Catherine so
 he could marry someone else who could give him a son. The
 Pope refused, so Henry divorced Catherine instead in 1533 and
 made himself head of a new protestant Church of England.
- Henry married Anne Boleyn in 1533 but Anne also failed to have a son. She had a baby girl, Elizabeth (later Queen Elizabeth 1).
- Henry thought Anne made some bad choices and sent her to the Tower of London. She was beheaded for treason in 1536.
- Henry immediately married Jane Seymour, and they had a son called Edward. Unfortunately, Jane died after he was born.
- Henry had 3 more wives: Anne of Cleves, Kathryn Howard and Katherine Parr.
- Henry hurt his leg jousting. It never completely healed so he did less exercise and because he ate such rich food, he became fat.
- Henry died in 1547, aged 55.

Key Questions
Who was Henry VIII?
What was he like?
When did he live?
Where did he live?
Why is he important?
What did he do?
How was his life different to our lives today?



A portrait of Henry VIII. (Photo: Workshop of Hans Holbein the Younger 1497/8 (German) Details of artist on Google Art Project [Public domain], via Wikimedia Commons)

Henry's Wives



What happened to them?
Divorced, Beheaded, Died,
Divorced, Beheaded, Survived.

Portraits: Getty Images UK

Key Vocabulary					
annul	To cancel a marriage (say it was				
	not valid).				
Catholic	A Christian belonging to the				
	Roman Catholic church.				
divorce	The legal ending of a marriage.				
evidence	Something that you see,				
	experience, hear or read which is				
	from or about the past.				
heir	The next person who will be king				
	or queen.				
The Pope	The head of the Roman Catholic				
	Church.				
protestant	A Christian belonging to the				
	Church of England.				
reign	The time a king or queen is on the				
	throne and rules the country.				
treason	A crime of betraying your country				
	and/or your king or queen.				

Historical Enquiry

Identify different ways in which the past is represented (evidence sources) and begin to compare the reliability of different sources.

Primary sources such as eye witness accounts are more reliable than secondary sources (something written by someone who was not there themselves). Objects are more reliable than paintings because paintings can include things from the imagination and may not include everything that is really there.

Use a wide range of evidence to ask and answer questions about people and events in the past.