The Knowledge

Supporting the National Curriculum



Knowing More

Remembering More

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Tudors



Key Dates

Henry VIII timeline

1491	28th June Henry Tudor, later King Henry VIII, is born to King Henry VII and Elizabeth of York.
1502	2nd April Arthur, Henry's brother, dies aged 15.
1509	21st April Henry VII, dies. Henry VIII becomes king. 11th June Henry marries Catherine of Aragon, his brother's widow.
1516	18th February Princess Mary is born to Catherine of Aragon.
1533	After seven years, Henry breaks away from the Pope and the Roman Catholic Church so that his marriage to Catherine of Aragon can be annulled.
	25th January Henry marries Anne Boleyn.
	7th September Princess Elizabeth is born to Anne Boleyn.
1534	3rd November Henry becomes Head of the Church of England.
1536	Roman Catholic monasteries, abbeys and convents are closed during the Dissolution of the Monasteries.
	19th May Anne Boleyn is executed for treason. 30th May Henry marries Jane Seymour.
1537	12th October Prince Edward is born to Jane Seymour. Jane dies 12 days later.
1540	6th January Henry marries Anne of Cleves. The marriage lasts six months.
	28th July Henry marries Catherine Howard.
1542	13th February Catherine Howard is executed.
1543	12th July Henry marries Catherine Parr.
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1547 28th January King Henry VIII dies, aged 55.

Key Facts

• Henry VIII was King of England from 1509 until he died in 1547. He was most famously remembered for having six wives and for breaking away from the Catholic Church. He was only 18 when becoming King and was an attractive and educated man. He was also an excellent sportsman, author and composer. Despite this, he was a cruel and selfish man.

Key Vocabulary

Annulment: A legal procedure in which something is no longer legally binding.

Church of England: A Protestant brand of Christianity created by Henry VIII.

Divorce: The legal or official process to end a marriage.

Reign: The period that a monarch rules.

Treason: The crime for betraying the monarch.

Test Yourself

- Who was the King during the Tudor period?
- How old was he when he became King?
- How many wives did he have?
- What happened to the Church during the Tudor period?
- When his Henry's reign end?

Who were the wives of Henry VIII?

