



## The Keys to the Castle



6 Weeks

### Rationale/Intent:

Following on from a curiosity cube task, the children will receive a letter from Mr Trapshut, who tells the children that Corfe Castle will be demolished to build a silent, library that only houses books written before 1700. Through this project, we will be immersing children in a dynamic history and art led project, looking at the fascinating story of Lady Mary Bankes and her set of keys. This will build on the key knowledge linking to chronology, understanding structures of vehicles and buildings and their ability to ask and answer historical enquiry questions. The children will understand the importance of people and places in the past, how and why historical buildings should be preserved, and the effect these had on how people lived in the past. As part of this, the children will demonstrate the values of community and excellence, linking to Lady Bankes' endless perseverance and achievement, even in the face of challenge. This will link closely to the British Values of democracy, tolerance and the rule of law.

### Hook:

A set of keys are left in a jar in the front of the classroom and a series of Quentin Blake style images are around the room. Children are encouraged to ask and answer questions about the objects and images. The children will discover that the lady in the image is Lady Mary Bankes and her life in Corfe Castle.

### Outcome:

The children will persuade Mr Trapshut about whether or not Corfe Castle should be demolished. This will allow the children to show what they have learnt and will be shared with parent via a video.

### English

Link text: [Spud Murphy/ A Winter's Child](#)

Linked texts and extracts are used as 'What a good one looks like' to teach from and are used to enable children in the writing process, using **Talk for Writing**, to successfully achieve the main writing outcomes for the project.

### Main writing outcome:

#### Narrative - fictional story

Innovate a narrative based on the story of The Winter's Child (eg. The Summer, Spring or Autumn's child).

#### Non-fiction - persuasive speeches

Use organisational features of a speech to write a persuasive speeches about why Corfe Castle should be preserved.

#### Writing skills to cover

Formal tone

Presentational skills (voice projection)

#### Punctuation and Grammar

Apostrophes for contraction/possession

Capital letters and full stops

Commas for lists  
Expanded noun phrases  
Fronted adverbials  
Direct speech

**Weekly free writes:** are used to develop individual targets, re-visit previous learning and offer a range of opportunities and genres to apply previously taught skills.

**Focus Subject - History**

1. To explain the importance of preserving historical buildings.  
NC - Can independently devise a range of historically valid questions for a series of different types of enquiry. Will answer them with detailed structured responses making reference to specific sources of evidence related to 'Why should we preserve our locality?'. Will use a range of relevant historical terms.
2. To recall the key events of the siege of Corfe Castle, including Lady Mary Bankes being presented with the keys to Corfe Castle as a tribute to her courage.  
NC - Can select what is most significant in a historical account, related to a person's life, a key event or a theme, e.g. which buildings are of particular significance within their locality.
3. To recall why England was in the grip of civil war.  
NC - Can independently devise a range of historically valid questions for a series of different types of enquiry.
4. To recall that the siege of Corfe Castle began in 1643, lasted for 3 years but was overcome in 1645.  
NC - Can select what is most significant in a historical account, related to a person's life, a key event or a theme, e.g. which buildings are of particular significance within their locality.

**Focus Subject - Art**

- Use photos to create observational sketches of Corfe castle, looking at light and shadows.  
NC - I can experiment with the potential of various pencils (2B - HB) to show tone, texture etc.
- Create live sketches of Corfe Castle, labelling the man-made and natural features.  
NC- I can observe objects in both the natural and man-made world.
- Use a range of light and dark tools to create a final piece representing Corfe Castle (eg. White and black pencils to show the contrast of light and dark)  
NC - I can add more detail to drawings of people – particularly faces looking closely at where feature and the detail they have.

**Visits and visitors**

A visit to Corfe Castle

**Cultural capital; Science**

Recognise that they need light in order to see things and that dark is the absence of light.

**Home Learning**

Research an English castle of your choice and create a poster or model showing the features or the history of the castle.