

Unit 8, Section 2

Section 2: How comfortable were the lives of rich Tudor people?

Objectives

Children should learn:

- the key features of Tudor buildings
- to identify different ways in which Tudor houses have been represented

Activities

Show the children pictures of the internal and external features of Tudor houses, including wealthy stately homes. Ask the children to match the rooms to the outside of the house and work out the function of each room. *Which pictures represent the houses of the most wealthy? Why? Are there any unusual features of, and differences between these houses and houses today? What building materials were used?* Ask them which types of building may not have survived and why.

For each picture ask the children to make a judgement about what it would have been like for people living in the house, *How comfortable would this house have been compared with houses today?* Tell the children about changes made to houses at this time, *eg fireplaces, use of brick, separate rooms, more glass*. Discuss how many of the pictures show evidence of some of the changes. *What difference would the changes have made to the comfort of the house?*

Ask the children to select one house and describe or draw the improvements made to the house.

Points to note

A visit to a Tudor house and/or Tudor re-enactments, *eg Kentwell Hall, Suffolk or Gainsborough Old Hall, Lincolnshire* could provide the children with information for a drama or role-play instead of a written task.

Children will need to be encouraged to use all the information from the house to ensure that any role-play is based on knowledge and understanding of the time.

The stimulus of places or artefacts can be used as a starting point for discussion and drama activities. Dramatic techniques, *eg making tableaux* can be used to highlight key moments or to encourage the use of appropriate language.

Outcomes

Children:

- identify the features of Tudor buildings
- make inferences about the lifestyles of different types of Tudor people
- describe or draw an aspect of the way of life of wealthy people