



HISTORY BITES

LITTLE NIBBLES OF HISTORY

How dangerous was the court of Henry VIII?

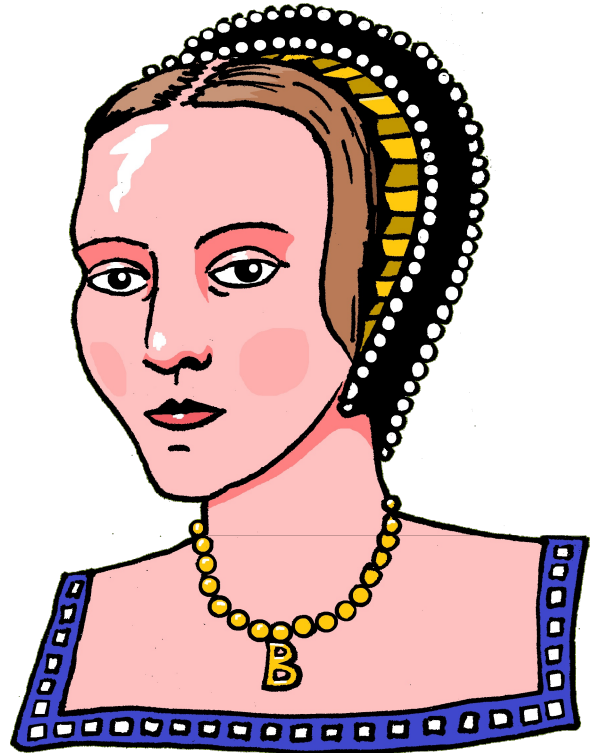
It is estimated that 57,000 people could have been executed during the reign of Henry VIII.

Now understand that this was over his 37 years on the throne, and we must remember this is difficult to prove, but I do think it shows that being part of his court was very dangerous.

Tudor times were, of course, very different from our own. Common ailments that we can now cure with antibiotics and advanced medicines were unknown, and so death was much more commonplace.

However, Henry's court was still a killing zone, if you disagreed with the king!

ANNE BOLEYN Pictured. She was arrested on false charges of having affairs with at least five men and was convicted and sentenced to death. She was beheaded on 19th May 1536.



What happened after the Break with Rome?

For example, we do know that his break with Rome led to differences within his court, which resulted in many of those disagreeing with him, being executed, even though they were his friends, until that point!

We also know he executed those who failed to obey his Act of Succession in, for example, many of the monasteries across the land.

Add to that, that Henry executed potential rivals to his throne, along with two of his wives and their alleged lovers, and even his trusted advisor, Thomas Cromwell.

Basically, life in his court was extremely dangerous, all because he wanted to divorce a particular wife!

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How dangerous was the court of Henry VIII?

All monarchs in history have executed those who have disagreed with them, or plotted to overthrow them. Was Henry VIII any worse than others who preceded him?

Some would say he was just a monarch of his time, when life itself was valued less, however the numbers speak for themselves

An estimated that 57,000 people were executed over the 37 years he ruled!

Would you have wanted to be part of Henry VIII's court?

To help your children understand this important time in British history we've written a musical

HENRY VIII

The Break With Rome

which tells this incredible story and has twelve amazing original songs that your children will walk round the school singing. Just go to



<https://eml.coolski.co.uk/index.php/product/henry-viii/>

To learn more about life in Henry's court go to:

<http://www.tudorbritain.org/court/courtlife.asp#:~:text=Life%20at%20court%20was%20not,people%20were%20put%20to%20death.>

<https://www.hrp.org.uk/hampton-court-palace/history-and-stories/life-at-the-tudor-court/#gs.rjvdan>

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1 lesson.

CLASSROOM ACTIVITY

HENRY XII's FAVOURITE FOOD

All that executing people makes a King hungry, here's a fun way to make HENRY VIII's favourite snack!!!

Chicken Legs

Henry's favourite food in our musical.

1. Simply roll up a piece of cardboard into a long thin tube. the length you want your chicken leg to be. Use masking tape to fix together.
2. Crumple up some old newspaper into a ball and stick this to one end of your cardboard tube.



3. Repeat this, but use more newspaper to create the larger shape at the other end, about four times as many will create the right look.
4. Paint a light yellowy brown, but add some darker red/brown to both the bottom and larger end...Mmmmmm