Year 2 History – The Norman Conquest

Ideas to Support your child with history learning

This topic could be learned over 3 or 4 weeks.

Below are a suggestion of information your child could find out about to make a topic book of the Norman Conquest. Each title could take 2 or 3 sessions to complete, so your child can collect information, organise it and then write it up and maybe illustrate it too. Each title could produce between half a page and a page of writing with illustrations. (This is just a guide, some children will complete more than this and some children will only be able to complete just a sentence or two.)

Title 1: **Contenders for the throne**

Why did all this trouble start?

Who were the three contenders for the throne?

Why did they believe they should be King?

What do you think?

Title 2:  **The Battles**

What happened during the Battle of Stamford Bridge?

What happened in the Battle of Hastings?

How do we know about the battles? How will you find out your information? (pictures, paintings, tapestries or diary entries)

Can you sequence the events of both battles in order using a simple timeline?

Title 3:  **Williams Problems**

What problems did William face after he won the Battle of Hastings?

How did he solve them?

What do you think about William’s choices?

Title 4: **William the Conqueror’s victory**

What was life like after William the Conqueror’s victory?

How did William reward people that were loyal to him?

Find out about the feudal system, what did this mean for his subjects?

**Other interesting topics**

How did you become a knight? How long did it take? What skills did you need?

What were castles like? Find out about a motte and bailey castle and compare to the later stone keeps. What was life like inside the castle?