

Castles

A castle is...

- a type of structure
- often built hundreds of years ago
- built by any important person – such as a lord or king
- built to protect the lord or king from invading enemies
- Most castles were built on hills and had high walls and towers



The first castles were made from wood, but these were easy to burn down.



Later castles were built using stone, so they were stronger and harder to attack.

Famous Castles

The United Kingdom has many significant castles.



Parts of a castle



1. keep
2. motte
3. bailey
4. curtain wall
5. gatehouse

Towers

A tower is a tall, narrow structure. Here are some famous towers from around the world.



CN Tower – Toronto, Canada



Big Ben – London, England



Eiffel Tower – Paris, France



Tokyo Skytree – Tokyo, Japan

Key Vocabulary

bailey	The courtyard or flat ground, inside the outer wall of a castle.
concrete	A very hard building material made by mixing cement, sand, small stones and water.
curtain wall	The outer wall that protects a castle.
gatehouse	The entrance to a castle.
keep	The strong central tower of a castle.
moat	A deep, wide ditch surrounding a castle, fort or town, typically filled with water as a defence against attack.
motte	A small hill in the middle of a castle on which a fort or keep is built.

Tunnels

A tunnel is a long passage under the ground. Tunnels are usually built as a way of getting from one side of an obstacle to the other.



The Channel Tunnel is a tunnel under the sea that links England and France.

The Zion-Mount Carmel Tunnel in the USA is a tunnel through a mountain.

Bridges

A bridge is a structure built over a road, river or railway that allows people or vehicles to cross from one side to the other. Bridges can be built from a range of materials.



Metal suspension bridge



Concrete road bridge



Stone railway bridge



Rope footbridge