

Year 7: Medieval Monarchs

Term	Definition
1. Medieval	The Medieval Period, also known as the Middle Ages, is a time period. In Britain this is largely understood to begin after the Romans left Britain and end with the Renaissance in the 14th century.
2. Monarchs	The Monarch is the King, or Queen, in charge of a country. Only countries with a Royal Family have a Monarch. Examples of Monarchies include Britain and Spain.
3. King Stephen	Former King of England. Stephen ruled between 1135 and 1154.
4. Empress Matilda	Empress Matilda was one of the claimants to the throne, in 1154, following the death of King Stephen. Ultimately she failed to become Queen but secured the throne for her son, Henry II.
5. Civil War	A Civil War is when two, or more, parties go to war living in the same country. Often Civil Wars are more brutal because they split towns, streets and even families.
6. Eleanor of Aquitaine	Eleanor of Aquitaine tried to take the throne after taking part in a plot to overthrow her husband Henry II. Eleanor was unsuccessful and was imprisoned for sixteen years by Henry.
7. Prince John	Prince John became King of England when his brother left for a crusade. He was largely an unpopular ruler and is remembered for increasing the levels of taxation across the country.
8. Crusade	A crusade is a Holy war. In the Middle Ages the Pope ordered Christians to invade the Holy Lands to take control of them in the name of Christianity and to overthrow the Muslims who lived there.
9. Magna Carta	The Magna Carta, signed in 1215 by Prince John, guaranteed some basic rights in England and limited the power of the Monarchy. However, it was only for freemen and this was only a small percentage of people in England.
10. Edward I	Edward I was King of England between the years 1274 and 1307. He is best known for the brutal way he subdued the Welsh people and for an unsuccessful attempt to invade Scotland.
11. Conquest	A conquest is when someone takes control of something. For example William successfully invaded England in 1066, making it a successful conquest of the country.