

# Year 2 Castles and Dragons

## Key Aim

To learn about significant places in their own locality

## Key Concepts and Skills: History

- To identify similarities and differences between ways of life in different periods
- To look at historical buildings to find out about the past
- To ask and answer questions
- Describe the differences between then and now

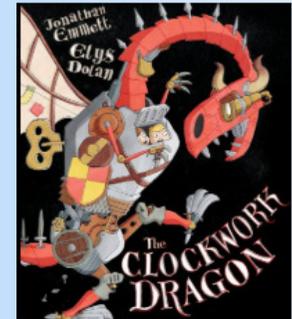
## Key facts:

- Portchester Castle has changed over time
- People in a castle had different jobs
- Portchester Castle is very old
- The Castle sits by the sea and is at the top of Portsmouth Harbour
- You can still see lots of the old features today
- The keep, big stone walls, water gate, and Roman towers are still standing
- There is a very old church, St Mary's, inside the castle grounds



## Quality Texts to Inspire Us:

### The Clockwork Dragon



### Edgar the dragon- Video Clip



**YEAR 2**  
**Castles and Dragons**  
**Spring II 2026**

Outcome: The children will understand have a better understanding of history in their locality.

Hook: Children to come into a dark classroom with dragon noises and find a BEWARE dragon sign. They discover a letter from Mr and Mrs Kingston.



As **Readers**, we will:

- ask and answer questions about a text
- make inferences about characters thoughts, feeling and actions
- make predictions based on what we have read
- compare books by the same or different authors
- read words containing common suffixes
- be introduced to non-fiction books that are structured in different ways
- check that the text makes sense and correct inaccurate reading

Key Vocabulary:  
Main events  
Sequence  
Inference  
Compare  
Similarities and differences  
Questions  
Fluency

As **Writers**, we will:

- orally rehearse what we are going to write about
- write down ideas and/or key words, including new vocabulary to plan our writing
- learn how and use a range of subordinating and co-ordinating conjunctions in our writing
- write sentences with different forms-statement, question, exclamation, command
- proofread to check our writing and begin to make simple additions and revisions

Key Vocabulary:  
Subordinating conjunction  
Suffix -ful -less  
Imperative verb  
Audience  
Purpose  
Command  
Newsletter report  
Instructions

As **Mathematicians**, we will:

**Measurement:**

compare, describe and solve practical problems for:

- ♣ lengths and heights
- ♣ mass/weight
- ♣ capacity and volume
- ♣ time

♣ measure and begin to record the following:

- ♣ lengths and heights ♣ mass/weight ♣ capacity and volume ♣ time
- ♣ recognise and know the value of different denominations of coins and notes

Key Vocabulary:  
Long short  
Longer shorter  
Tall, short, double and half  
Heavy light, heavier than, lighter than  
Full, empty, more than, less than, half, half full, quarter  
Quicker, slower, earlier, later  
Hours, minutes, seconds  
Pounds, pence, notes

As **Scientists**, we will:

- find out and describe how plants need water, light and a suitable temperature to grow and stay healthy.
- observe closely using simple equipment.
- ask simple questions and recognise that they can be answered in different ways.
- perform simple tests.

Key Vocabulary:

Plant	stem	independent variable
Flower	leaf	dependent variable
Fruit	trunk	controlled variable
Vegetable	branch	compost
Herb	seed	
Blossom	sunlight	

As **Historians** we will:

- explore a historical place in our locality – Portchester Castle
- investigate and find out about the differences between past and present
- understand the key parts of a castle
- find out about the jobs people did in a castle
- ask questions about the past

Key Vocabulary:

changes	compare	wall
similarities	differences	roof
buildings	structure	construction
materials	ancient	modern
settlements	Portchester Castle	

As **Designers and Artists**, we will:

- use a range of materials creatively to design and make products
- use drawing, painting and sculpture to develop and share ideas, experiences and imagination
- develop a wide range of art and design techniques in using colour, pattern, texture, line, shape, form and space
- learn about the work of a range of artists, craft makers and designers, describing the differences and similarities between different practices and disciplines, and making links to their own work.

Key Vocabulary:

observe  
sketch  
draw  
paint  
create  
texture

As **Computer Technologists** we will:

- recognise that we can count and compare objects using tally charts
- recognise that objects can be represented as pictures
- create a pictogram
- select objects by attribute and make comparisons
- recognise that people can be described by attributes
- explain that we can present information using a computer

Key Vocabulary:

organise, data, object, tally chart, votes, total  
pictogram, enter, data, count  
data, pictogram, explain, more common,  
least common  
attribute, most popular, least popular,  
conclusion, block diagram,

In **PE** we will:

- learn to perform balances and movements, and combine them into a routine
- link balances with other travelling moves, moving smoothly into and out of the balances
- safely use benches and mats to develop sequences
- work with a partner to create a sequence of gymnastic actions
- use benches and mats to explore balances on different levels
- move safely on and around the apparatus
- mirror and match a partner

Key Vocabulary:

Balance	routine	travelling
Sequences	actions	levels
Mirror and match		share

In **PSHE** we will:

- talk about the things they have in common with their friends, classmates, and other people.
- think about how friends can have both similarities and differences.
- know how to play and work cooperatively in different groups and situations
- know how to share their ideas and listen to others, take part in discussions, and give reasons for their views.

Key Vocabulary:

similar	different	cooperate	negotiate
share	respect	value	

As **Musicians**, we will:

- use voices expressively and creatively by singing songs and speaking chants and rhymes
- play tuned and untuned instruments musically
- listen with concentration and understanding to a range of high-quality live and recorded music
- experiment with, create, select and combine sounds using the inter-related dimensions of music

Key Vocabulary:

sing	
tuned instruments	untuned instruments
speed	timbre
beat	rhythm