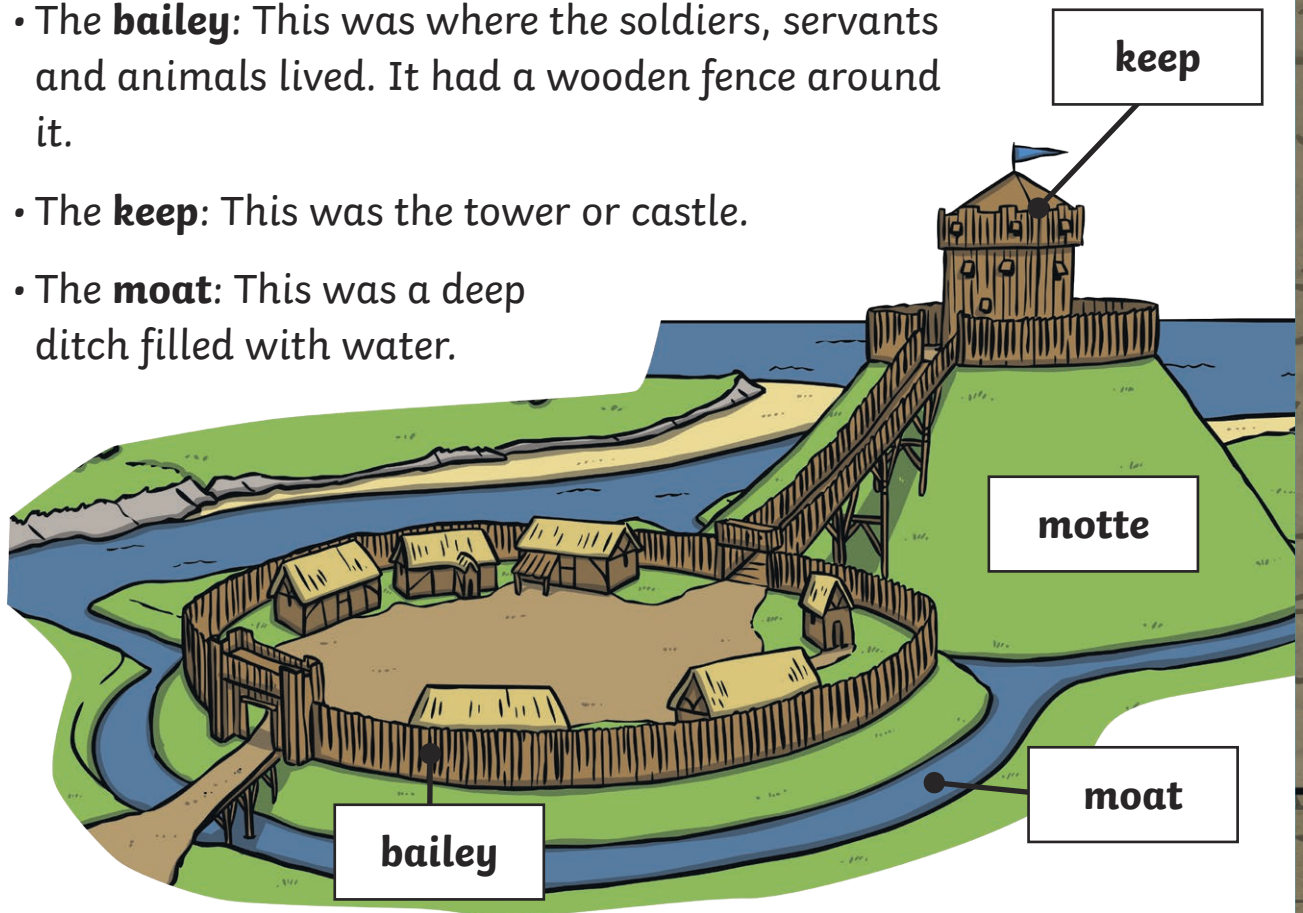


Motte and Bailey Castles

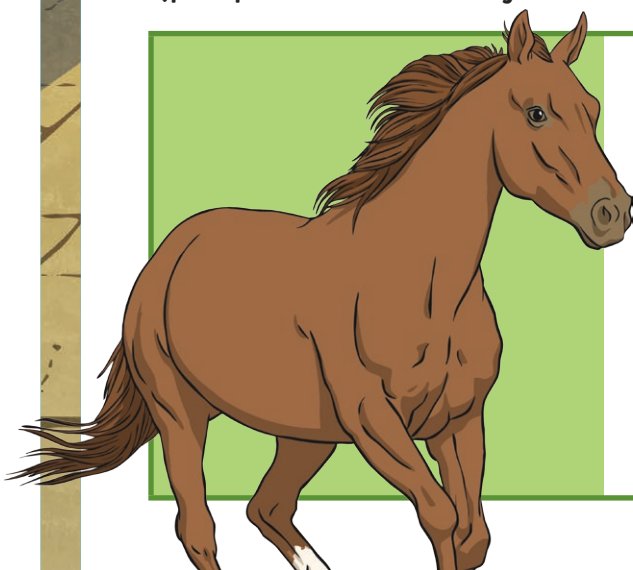
What Is a Motte and Bailey Castle?

- The **motte**: This was a hill with a tower (or 'keep') built on top.
- The **bailey**: This was where the soldiers, servants and animals lived. It had a wooden fence around it.
- The **keep**: This was the tower or castle.
- The **moat**: This was a deep ditch filled with water.



Who Built Motte and Bailey Castles?

Motte and bailey castles were built in England by the Normans (people who came from France).



What Else Was in a Motte and Bailey Castle?

- bakeries
- barracks (buildings for soldiers)
- kitchens
- stables for horses

Questions

1. Tick two things you would find in a motte and bailey castle.

- a river
- a keep or castle
- a moat

2. What was found on top of the motte? Tick one.

- a keep
- a statue
- a church

3. What was around the bailey? Tick one.

- a river
- a forest
- a fence

4. Where were the Normans from? Tick one.

- England
- France
- Spain

5. Tick two things you would find in a motte and bailey castle.

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> cafes | <input type="checkbox"/> a museum |
| <input type="checkbox"/> stables | <input type="checkbox"/> shops |
| <input type="checkbox"/> houses | <input type="checkbox"/> kitchens |

Answers

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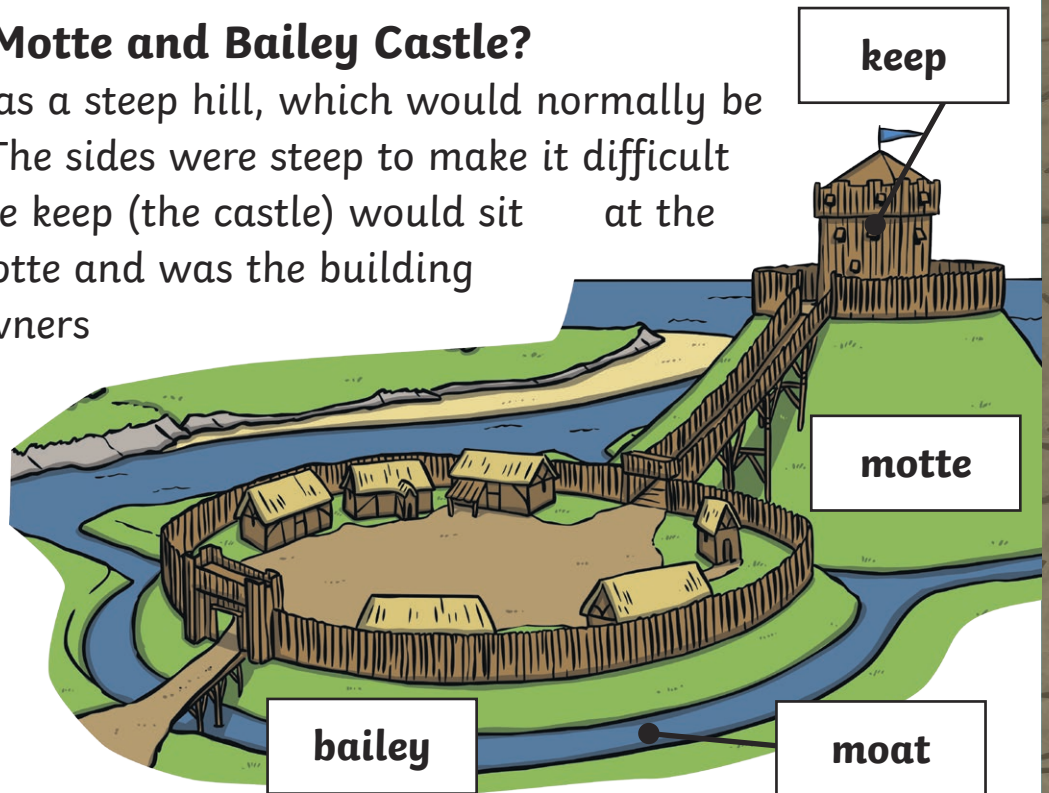
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- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> cafes | <input type="checkbox"/> a museum |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> stables | <input type="checkbox"/> shops |
| <input type="checkbox"/> houses | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> kitchens |

Motte and Bailey Castles

What Is a Motte and Bailey Castle?

The motte was a steep hill, which would normally be man-made. The sides were steep to make it difficult to attack. The keep (the castle) would sit at the top of the motte and was the building where the owners of the castle would live. The bailey was where the soldiers, servants and animals lived. It was



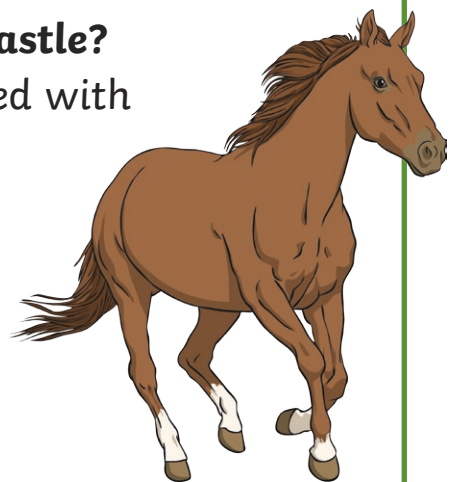
surrounded by a tall, wooden fence. A deep, water-filled moat surrounded the castle to make it even more difficult to attack.

Who Built Motte and Bailey Castles?

Motte and bailey castles were built by the Normans. They began building castles in England after winning the Battle of Hastings in 1066.

What Else Was in a Motte and Bailey Castle?

The space inside the bailey would be filled with houses and buildings such as stables, bakeries and kitchens. The people who lived and worked there would look after those who lived in the keep. There were often barracks for soldiers to live in so that they could protect the castle.



Questions

1. Why were the sides of the motte steep? Tick one.

- because it looked better
- to make it difficult to attack
- so the keep was hidden

2. What was found on top of the motte? Tick one.

- the servants
- the soldiers
- the owners of the castle

3. When was the Battle of Hastings? Tick one.

- 1066
- 1166
- 1266

4. What was the moat usually filled with? Tick one.

- dirt
- food
- water

5. What were the barracks used for?

Answers

1. Why were the sides of the motte steep? Tick one.

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5. What were the barracks used for?

The barracks were used for the soldiers to live in.

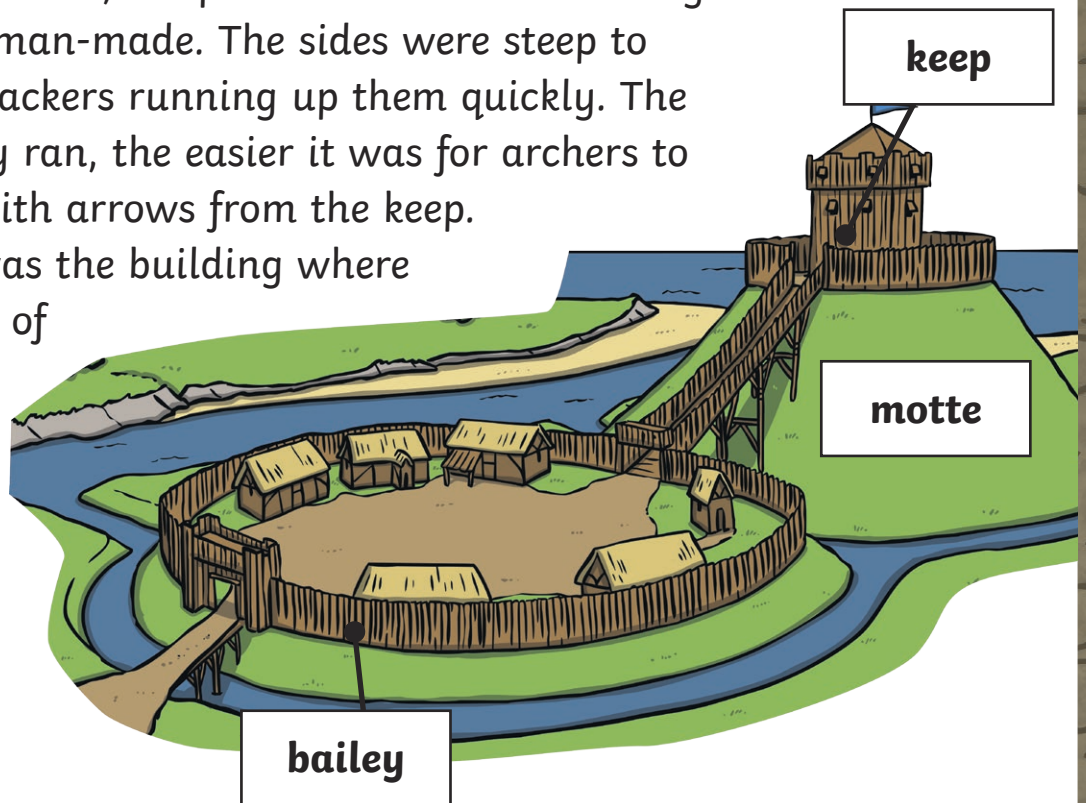
Motte and Bailey Castles

Motte and bailey castles were made up of two main parts. The motte was a tall, steep hill which would usually have been man-made. The sides were steep to prevent attackers running up them quickly. The slower they ran, the easier it was for archers to hit them with arrows from the keep.

The keep was the building where the owners of the castle would live.

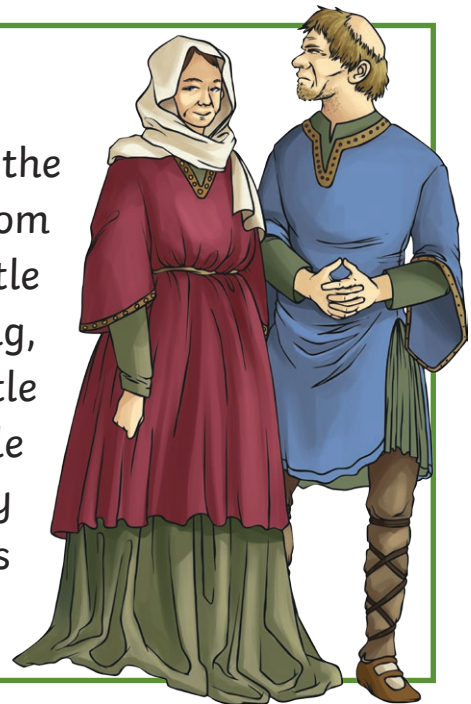
It was the safest place in the castle.

The bailey was open, flat ground surrounded by a tall, wooden fence, often topped with spikes.



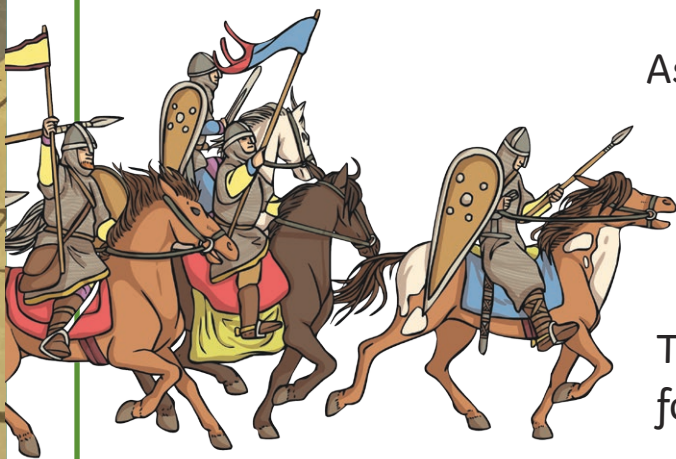
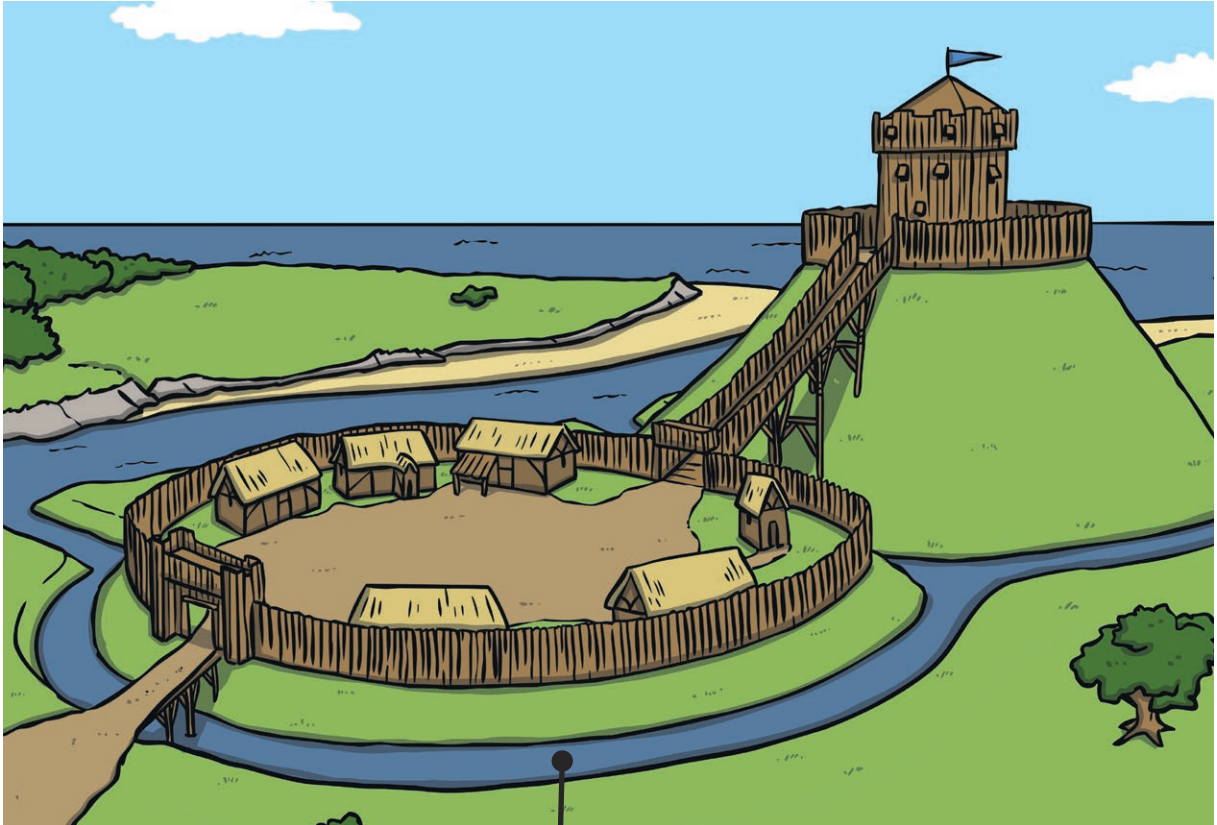
Who Built Motte and Bailey Castles?

Motte and Bailey castles were built by the Normans. They came to England from northern France after they won the Battle of Hastings in 1066. The winning king, William the Conqueror, decided to settle in England and his people came to settle with him. They wanted a way to stay safe in a new country so needed castles that could be built quickly.



What Else Was in a Motte and Bailey Castle?

The space inside the bailey was filled with lots of different buildings. There were barracks for the soldiers to stay in, as well as stables for the horses. The bailey also had kitchens and bakeries.



As well as the motte, bailey and keep, there was also a moat surrounding the castle. This was a deep ditch that was usually filled with water. This made it even more difficult for anyone to attack the castle.

Questions

1. Which words are used to describe the motte? Tick one.

small and low

long and high

tall and steep

2. What does 'man-made' mean?

3. Where did the Normans come from? Tick one.

southern France

northern France

northern Spain

4. Which battle did the Normans win in 1066?

5. Name three things that could be found in the bailey.

6. Why did a moat make it even more difficult for the castle to be attacked?

Answers

1. Which words are used to describe the motte? Tick one.

- small and low
 long and high
 tall and steep

2. What does 'man-made' mean?

'Man-made' means that it was made by people and it wasn't natural.

3. Where did the Normans come from? Tick one.

- southern France
 northern France
 northern Spain

4. Which battle did the Normans win in 1066?

The Normans won the Battle of Hastings in 1066.

5. Name three things that could be found in the bailey.

Any three from the following: barracks for the soldiers, stables for the horses, bakeries, kitchens.

6. Why did a moat make it even more difficult for the castle to be attacked?

Children's own answers about the water or deep ditch being difficult to cross.