

# Monarchs and Mayhem

## The Tudors

The Tudor period began when Henry Tudor defeated King Richard III at the Battle of Bosworth in 1485. This ended the Wars of the Roses. Henry Tudor became King Henry VII after the battle and married Elizabeth of York in 1486. Their youngest son, Henry, went on to become King Henry VIII. After King Henry VIII died his nine-year-old son, Edward, became king for six years. Henry's daughter, Queen Mary I, then took the throne and ruled until her death in 1558. Henry's youngest daughter then became Queen Elizabeth I. The reign of the Tudors ended with the death of Queen Elizabeth I in 1603.



## Henry VIII

Henry VIII was King of England from 1509 until he died in 1547. He is mostly remembered for having six wives and for breaking away from the Roman Catholic Church and the Pope. He was only 18 when he became king and was an attractive and educated man. He was also an excellent sportsman, author and composer. Later in his life, he became overweight and had various health problems. He was known as a cruel and selfish man. During his reign, Henry founded the Church of England and expanded the Royal Navy from five ships to 60.



## Life at court

Henry VIII had over 60 homes and his favourite was Hampton Court Palace. Henry enjoyed showing off his wealth at court. It became a centre for his favourite things, including art, music, dance, poetry and tournaments. The richest and most important people in the country also lived at court. To show their wealth and impress the king, the courtiers wore expensive clothes made of silk, velvet and lace. They had to please the king, give him expensive gifts and flatter him. If they displeased him, they would be severely punished or even executed.

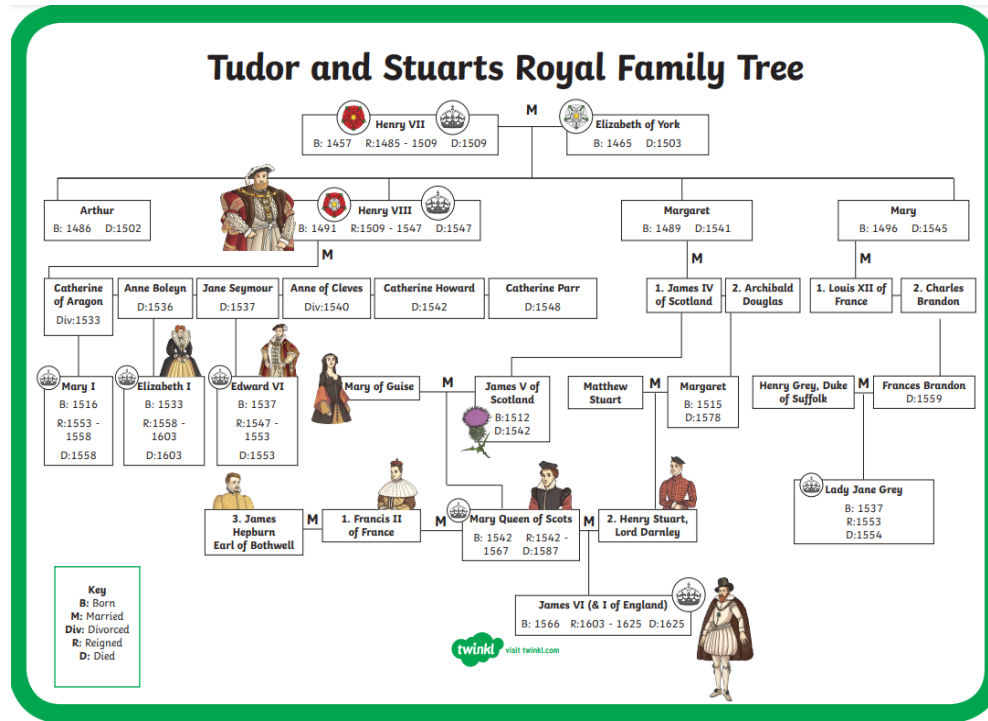


Hampton Court Palace

## Glossary

<b>annulment</b>	A legal procedure in which something is no longer legally binding.
<b>Christianity</b>	A religion based on the Bible, the belief in God and the person and teachings of Jesus Christ.
<b>Church of England</b>	A Protestant branch of Christianity created by Henry VIII.
<b>divorce</b>	A legal or official process to end a marriage.
<b>English Reformation</b>	The breaking away of the Church of England from the authority of the Pope and the Roman Catholic Church during the 16th century.
<b>Protestantism</b>	The beliefs and activities of the Christian Church that separated from the Roman Catholic Church in the 16th century.
<b>reign</b>	The period that a monarch rules.
<b>Roman Catholicism</b>	The beliefs and activities of the Roman Catholic Church, a branch of Christianity headed by the Pope.
<b>Tower of London</b>	A fortress in London used for many purposes, including a prison and execution ground.
<b>treason</b>	The crime of betraying your country and going against the ruler or government.
<b>Tudor</b>	Relating to the Tudor line of rulers who held the throne from 1485 until 1603.
<b>Wars of the Roses</b>	A series of wars between the House of Lancaster and the House of York for control of the throne of England.

## Kings and Queens



## The Gunpowder Plot

- King James, I and the Parliament were targeted by a Catholic plot in 1605.
- The Gunpowder Plot aimed to blow up both leaders and force out Protestant leadership by replacing them with Roman Catholicism.
- Early in the morning, one of the rebels was found in the basement of Parliament. He was carrying barrels of gunpowder.
- Fawkes and other men involved in the plot were tried for treason. They were executed for this crime.

## The Civil War



The English Civil War happened a long time ago, from 1642 to 1651. It was a big fight between two groups in England: the Roundheads and the Cavaliers. The Roundheads supported Parliament and their leader Oliver Cromwell, while the Cavaliers supported King Charles I. The war started because they disagreed about who should have more power in the country. After many battles, the Roundheads won, and King Charles I was captured and later executed. The outcome of the war was that England became a republic for a while, and Oliver Cromwell ruled as the Lord Protector. It was a very important event in English history and shaped the way the country is today.