




History—How measly were the Middle Ages?

Year 9

Term 1



Timeline		Key Words		Key Questions
1025	Avicenna, the Islamic doctor, publishes his book ‘The Canon of Medicine’ with over 400 different cures.	Measly	Too small in size or amount: not enough. This enquiry suggests that the Middle Ages were not a good time to be alive or important in history.	How important was the Church to everyday life? <ul style="list-style-type: none">The Church offered people an understanding of the world and some form of education.Priests would pray for the souls of the dead so that they could get into heaven.The Church acted as a meeting place for the people.
1209	The University of Cambridge is established.	Tithes	The money people paid to the Church. This was around 10% of their earnings.	
1215	The Magna Carta is signed by King John when he is forced by the Barons. The King holds too much control in England and is a poor military leader.	Monasteries	These Church buildings were the homes of monks and nuns and were used as hospitals.	
1348	The Black Death arrives in England	Superstition	The belief in supernatural powers such as good and bad luck.	What was the Black Death? <ul style="list-style-type: none">In 1348 the Black Death arrived in England. The disease killed around 1/3 of the population. The people had no idea what caused it or how to treat it– they believed it was sent as a punishment from GodThe country faced widespread food shortages after the Plague and many towns and villages were abandoned. Cures were superstitious and included using animals or whipping to please God.Symptoms included– a fever, large buboes, a rash on the body and then death.
1381	The Peasants’ Revolt takes place.	Islam	The religion followed by countries in the Middle East. Many wars were fought between the followers of Islam and Christianity.	
1357-1453	The Hundred Years War between England and France	Relics	A historical, religious object believed to have the power to “cure” people.	
Key Individuals		Priests	These were the men who would conduct church services like mass and marriages.	What was The Peasants’ Revolt? <ul style="list-style-type: none">The revolt started when tax collectors tried to collect the new Poll Tax to pay for King Richard II’s war against France.Peasants were angry that they were still serfs and serving their King.The peasants demanded that they all be free and equal. The leader of the rebellion was a man called Wat Tyler.The King lied and promised them freedom, but the men involved in the revolt were quickly killed.
King John	King John was forced to agree to the Magna Carta, which limited the power of the monarch.	Latin	The language of the Church and Bible.	
Wat Tyler	The leader of the Peasant Revolt.	The Black Death	The disease that arrived in England in 1348. symptoms varied from buboes on the neck and groin to flu like symptoms.	
King Richard II	Richard was the 14 year old King who faced the Peasants Revolt in 1381.	Peasants	The poorest people in society, they often worked as farmers.	Who healed the sick in Medieval England? <ul style="list-style-type: none">Physicians were professionally trained and university educated. They would look at the symptoms of the patient’s symptoms and diagnose them.Barber surgeons were untrained surgeons, they learned their skills on the battlefield and would cut hair and do basic surgery.Apothecaries would mix herbal remedied– they had no formal education but would pass their skills and knowledge onto apprentices.People still believed in the work of Galen and Hippocrates.
Galen	A Roman doctor who was still very influential in the medieval period. He used Hippocrates’ theory of the Four Humours to explain illness and had dissected animals.	Serfs	Serfs were farmers owned by a landowner, they were not free to leave the land without permission.	
  		Miasma	Bad smelling air– people believed bad smelling air could carry disease.	
		The Four Humours	The four liquids in the body that people believed should always be balanced to be healthy– yellow bile, black bile, blood, phlegm.	What were Medieval Hospitals like? <ul style="list-style-type: none">Religious hospitals were run by the Church and were very cleanSome charities opened specific hospitals for the mentally ill or those with contagious diseases like Leprosy

The Islamic world was at the centre of scientific discovery whilst Britain used Urine Charts and Barber Surgeons to deal with sickness.



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