

Subject: History

Year 1

What is royalty and power?

NC/PoS:

Pupils should develop an awareness of the past, using common words and phrases relating to the passing of time. They should know where the people and events they study fit within a chronological framework and identify similarities and differences between ways of life in different periods. They should use a wide vocabulary of everyday historical terms. They should ask and answer questions, choosing and using parts of stories and other sources to show that they know and understand key features of events. They should understand some of the ways in which we find out about the past and identify different ways in which it is represented.

the lives of significant individuals in the past who have contributed to national and international achievements. Some should be used to compare aspects of life in different periods [for example, Elizabeth I and Queen Victoria, Christopher Columbus and Neil Armstrong, William Caxton and Tim Berners-Lee, Pieter Bruegel the Elder and LS Lowry, Rosa Parks and Emily Davison, Mary Seacole and/or Florence Nightingale and Edith Cavell]

Prior Learning (what pupils already know and can do)

What types of entertainment did my grandparents have.

Who are kings and queens

End Points (what pupils MUST know and remember)

- Explain what a **monarch** is and identify a **king or queen** as the ruler of a country.
- Know that **Britain is a monarchy** and identify the current monarch (**King Charles III**).
- Understand that monarchs are part of a **royal family** and the role is often **inherited**.
- Describe at least **two famous monarchs from the past** (e.g., Queen Elizabeth I, Queen Victoria).
- Recognise that the **power and role of monarchs has changed over time**.
- Identify important royal symbols such as **crowns, palaces and thrones**.
- Understand that monarchs represent the country and take part in ceremonies such as **coronations**.

Key Vocabulary

I

Component 1 LO: To understand **What is a Monarch?**

Prior Knowledge Evaluation

Ask pupils:

- Have you heard of a **king or queen**?
- Do you know any royal family members?
- Show pictures of castles, crowns and Buckingham Palace and ask what they think they are.

Starter

Show images of kings and queens from stories (fairy tales) and real life.

Discuss:

- What do these people have in common?

Main Activity

- Teacher explains what a **monarch** is.
- Introduce the idea that **Britain has a king**.
- Pupils design their own **royal crown** and decorate it with symbols that show power (jewels, gold, flags).

Alternative Activity Ideas

- Role-play: choose a pupil to be “king/queen” giving simple commands.
- Sorting activity: royal vs non-royal objects.

Adaptations for SEND

- Provide picture cards for vocabulary.
- Use pre-cut crown templates.
- Pair pupils with talk partners.

Key Vocabulary

- Monarch

- Crown
- Royal
- Throne

Helpful Websites

- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize>
- <https://www.natgeokids.com>
- <https://www.twinkl.co.uk/resource/t-tp-1186-imagine-monarchy-ks1-resource-pack>
- <https://www.kapowprimary.com/subjects/history/key-stage-1/year-2/what-is-a-monarch/lesson-1-what-is-a-monarch/>

Component 2 LO: To understand **The Royal Family Today**

Prior Knowledge Evaluation

Quick recap:

- What is a monarch?
- Who rules the UK?

Starter

Show a photo of **King Charles III** and ask pupils if they recognise him.

Main Activity

- Introduce the **current royal family**.
- Explain how the crown is **inherited** (passed down through families).
- Pupils create a **simple royal family tree**.

Alternative Activity Ideas

- Match names to pictures of royal family members.
- Draw Buckingham Palace and who might live there.

Adaptations for SEND

- Provide partially completed family tree templates.
- Use simplified vocabulary and visual prompts.

Key Vocabulary

- King
- Royal family
- Palace
- Inherit

Helpful Websites

- <https://www.royal.uk>
- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zf49q6f>
- <https://www.twinkl.co.uk>

Component 3: LO: To understand Famous Monarchs from the Past

Prior Knowledge Evaluation

Ask pupils:

- Do you think kings and queens lived the same long ago?

Starter

Show pictures of **Queen Elizabeth I** and **Queen Victoria**.

Main Activity

- Short storytelling session about each monarch.
- Pupils create a **timeline poster** with pictures.

Alternative Activity Ideas

- Dress-up role play as historic monarchs.
- Draw a portrait of a monarch.

Adaptations for SEND

- Provide simplified timeline with only 2–3 events.
- Use storytelling and visuals.

Key Vocabulary

- Past
- Timeline
- History
- Reign

Helpful Websites

- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach>
- <https://www.natgeokids.com>
- <https://www.twinkl.co.uk>

Component 4 LO: To understand the **Symbols of Royal Power**

Prior Knowledge Evaluation

Ask:

- What objects show someone is a king or queen?

Starter

Show images of:

- Crown
- Throne
- Royal robes
- Buckingham Palace

Discuss what they might represent.

Main Activity

- Pupils explore royal symbols and their meaning.
- Create a **Royal Symbol Poster**.

Alternative Activity Ideas

- Build a **castle model** using blocks or cardboard.
- Label parts of a castle.

Adaptations for SEND

- Provide symbol picture cards.
- Allow hands-on building activities.

Key Vocabulary

- Power
- Castle

- Symbol
- Crown

Helpful Websites

- <https://www.hrp.org.uk>
- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize>
- <https://www.natgeokids.com>

Component 5 LO: To understand How Has Royal Power Changed?

Prior Knowledge Evaluation

Recap:

- What does a king or queen do?

Starter

Show two pictures:

- A medieval king ruling
- A modern king meeting people

Ask pupils what differences they see.

Main Activity

- Explain that monarchs **had more power in the past** and today they mainly represent the country.
- Pupils create a **Past vs Present monarchy comparison chart**.

Alternative Activity Ideas

- Group discussion: What would you do if you were king or queen?
- Draw modern royal duties.

Adaptations for SEND

- Use sorting cards for “past” and “today”.
- Provide sentence starters.

Key Vocabulary

- Power
- Rule

- Past
- Present

Helpful Websites

- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize>
- <https://www.twinkl.co.uk>
- <https://www.kapowprimary.com>

Assessment Opportunities

- Vocabulary quizzes
- Timeline understanding
- Discussion about how monarchs' roles have changed
- Final poster explaining **what a monarch is**

Helpful Lesson Planning & Resource Tools

Chalkie AI (teacher planning tool)

- <https://chalkie.ai>

Other helpful teaching resources:

- <https://www.twinkl.co.uk>
- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach>
- <https://www.kapowprimary.com>