

# A Mystery Message

A letter has just arrived for you. You don't know who it is from but it has a big seal on it which shows it is very important.



A seal is made from wax. People put them on their letters to show they hadn't been opened. Seals were stamped with a special image to tell you who the letter was from.



Can you use the seal to work out who sent this letter?



Edward VI



Elizabeth I



Henry VIII

# A Royal Invitation!

You have been invited to a Tudor banquet to celebrate Henry VIII's wedding to his fifth wife, Katherine Howard!



The wedding is happening at Oatlands Palace, an enormous Royal palace that used to be in Weybridge!



This is a big event, and there's a lot you need to do before you arrive. So let's start preparing!

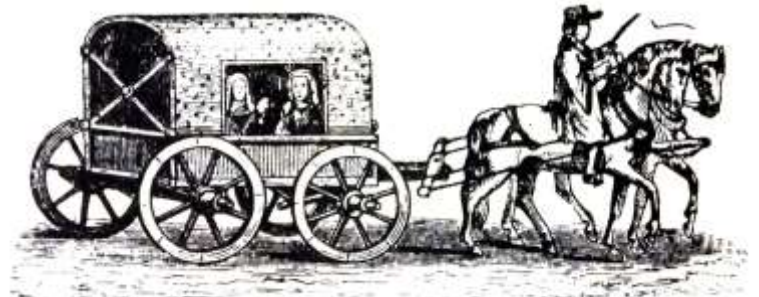


# Tudor Travel

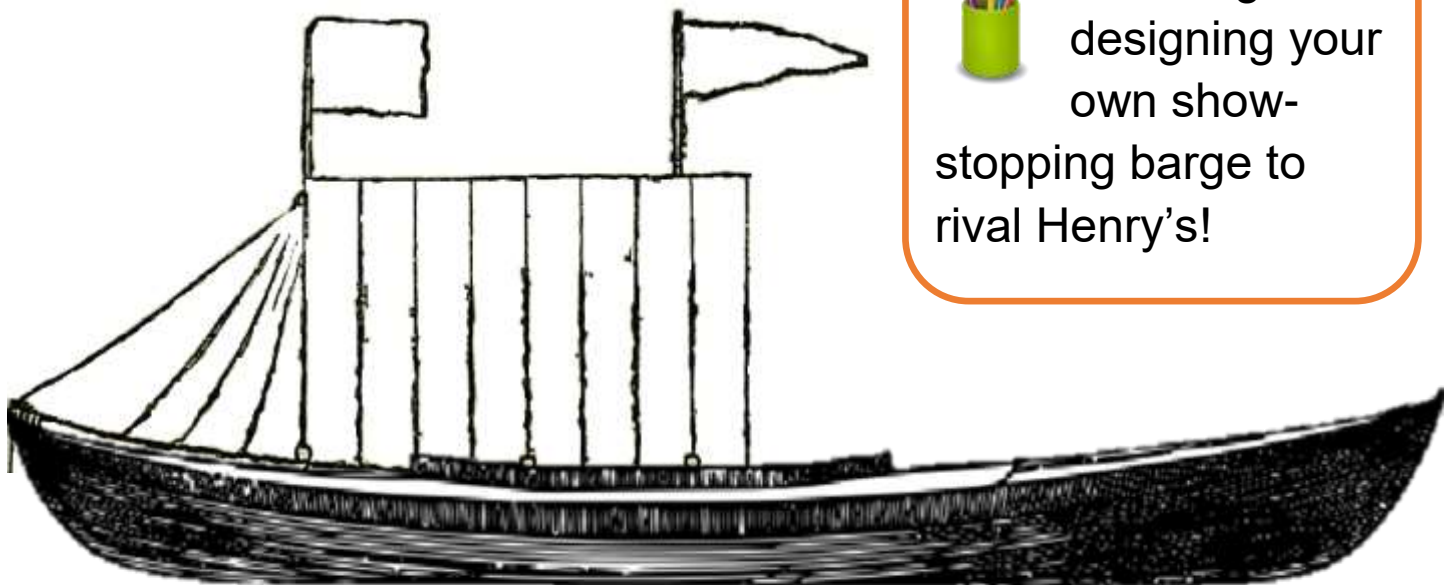
The first challenge is getting there! Members of Henry's Court had to follow the King as he travelled between his Royal palaces, so they were constantly on the move!

Oatlands Palace was in Weybridge, which does not seem very far away, but travel was a lot harder in Tudor times than it is now. Most people would travel by horse and carriage over long and bumpy country roads.

Travelling by carriage could also be dangerous! Thieves would wait at the side of the road for wealthy travellers to pass by...



A much safer way to travel was by boat. Many of Henry's palaces are built close to the river Thames so he could get there easily from London on his Royal Barge.



Have a go at designing your own show-stopping barge to rival Henry's!

# Dress to impress!

In Tudor times, clothes were used to show how wealthy a person was.

Rich people could afford clothing made of fine wool, linen or silk. Their clothes were decorated with jewels and embroidered with gold thread.



Even children were expected to dress in fancy outfits. This is a painting of a European princess called Isabella Clara Eugenia when she was 13 years old!  
Can you imagine wearing these clothes?




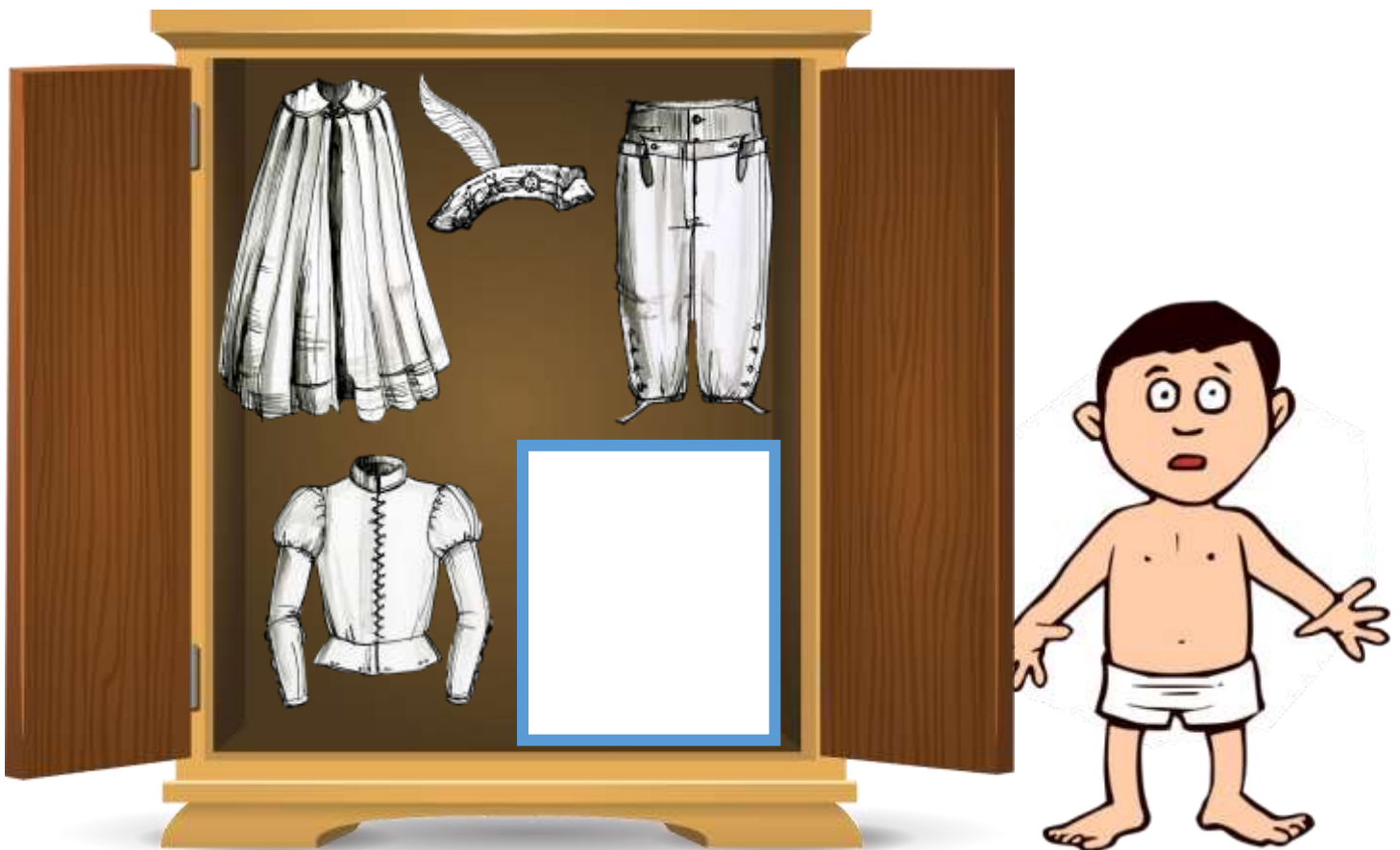
Use the pictures below to design your outfit for the wedding. Try to make it as bright and colourful as possible!



# Closet chaos

You now have your terrific Tudor outfit, but getting into it could be tricky. Tudor clothes are very different from the ones we wear today and a lot more complicated!

 Something is missing from this man's wardrobe. Can you use the descriptions to figure out what it is? Have a go at drawing the missing item in the empty space!



**Hats** often had a feather in them.

**Hose** were close fitting striped trousers


A **cape** was worn over the doublet.

A **Doublet** was a tight fitting jacket

**Breeches** were like short trousers and were tied at the knee with laces.

# Mind your manners!

Every grand Tudor celebration involved a banquet, but how should you behave? Take a look at the questions below and see if you could have survived a Tudor dinner!

 Some of the words are missing from these dinner rules. Can you work out whether these sentences start with **Do** or **Do not**? Write your answers in the space below!

## Dinner Rules

\_\_\_\_\_ loosen your belt so you can eat more food

\_\_\_\_\_ make sure you eat everything on your plate

\_\_\_\_\_ wipe your mouth before drinking

\_\_\_\_\_ put your hands on your head

\_\_\_\_\_ tell people if they accidentally break the rules at dinner

**DO** loosen your belt

You were allowed to loosen your belt so you could eat more food, but **only** before you started eating!



**DO NOT** eat everything on your plate

Leftover food was given to the poor who would gather by the palace gates after every feast.



**DO** wipe your mouth before drinking

In Tudor times you would not have had your own cup! You would have shared with the people next to you and possibly more! It was only polite to make sure your mouth was clean.



**DO NOT** put your hands on your head

Lots of people had lice and dandruff in Tudor times, so it is not surprising that people were asked not to touch their head at the table!



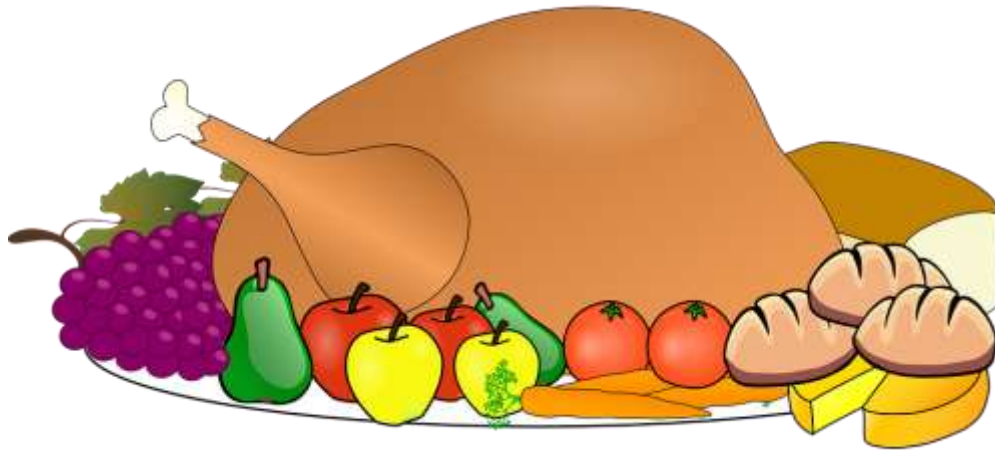
**DO NOT** tell people if they accidentally break the rules

It was rude to tell people they had done something wrong if they did not know any better.



So you had better make sure you remember all these rules!

# The Royal Feast!



You have finally arrived at the wedding feast. I hope you are hungry! Henry was famous for his dinner parties and he once gave a 10 course feast that lasted over 7 hours!

The Tudors loved meat, so you will see lots of roast chicken, beef and pork at the wedding feast. Henry also liked to show off lots of unusual and expensive foods, so be prepared to try some weird and wonderful recipes!



Two of these boxes show real Tudor dishes and one does not. Can you guess which is the odd one out?

Take a look at the next page to see if you were right!

Roasted  
Peacock



Asparagus in  
orange sauce



Cheese  
Sandwiches





# Tempting Tudor Treats!

Make sure you save some room, because at the end of the meal you will be treated to a splendid sugar banquet!

Wealthy Tudors loved sugar. Queen Elizabeth ate so much of it her teeth went black! Their favourite sweet treat was **marchpane**.

## What is marchpane?

Marchpane is a bit like marzipan, and it could be shaped into animals, castles, trees and people.

Queen Elizabeth I was even given a marchpane model of St Paul's Cathedral, which looked a bit different in Tudor times.



Design your own marvellous marchpane creation and have a go at bringing it to life with our museum craft worksheet!

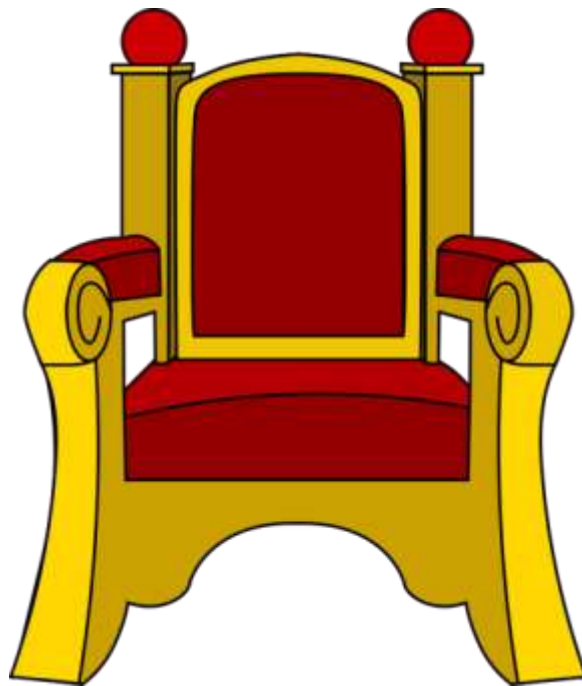


Sandwiches would not have been at a Tudor feast because they hadn't been invented! They were created over one hundred years later by the fourth Earl of Sandwich.



# An Audience with King Henry VIII

If you were very lucky you might be invited into Henry VIII's 'privy chamber', or his private rooms, for a meeting with the King!



This could be quite a scary experience. Henry was a very strict ruler and he even threatened to chop the hand off anyone who misbehaved in his court!



**Do you think Henry was a good king? What could he have done better? Write your ideas down here!**