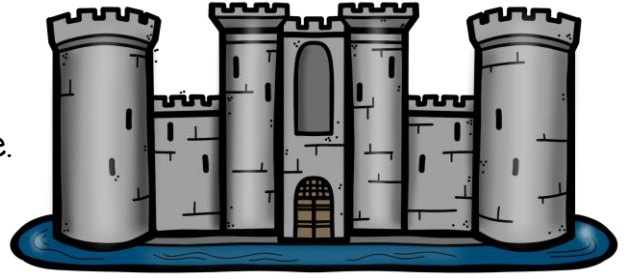


MIDDLE AGES: DAILY LIFE

RURAL

Most people in medieval Europe lived in rural areas, or villages in the countryside. Local lords lived in a large house, called a manor or castle. Peasants worked the land of the lord. They worked the land to grow crops such as barley, wheat, and oats. Vegetables and fruits were grown in gardens. Peasants usually had a few animals, like chickens for eggs and cows for milk. They worked hard all year long. The lord collected rent, taxes, and labor from his tenants. Most peasants worked the land, both others worked in the manor as servants.



CITY

Europe had few cities during the Middle Ages. City life was a lot different than country life, but not much easier. Many people worked as craftsmen and were members of guilds. Boys were usually apprentices to masters to learn a craft. Servants, merchants, bakers, doctors, and lawyers also lived in cities.



HOUSING

Most people think of large castles with the Middle Ages, but most people actually lived in small one or two room homes. They were very crowded and everyone slept in the same room. Family animals sometimes lived inside the homes too in the country. Homes were usually dark and smoky from fires. They were not comfortable.

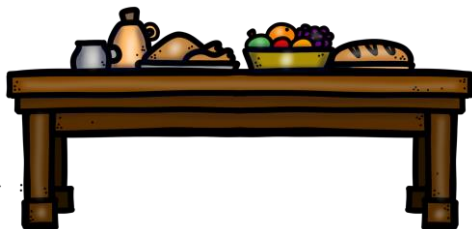
CLOTHING

Peasants usually wore plain clothing made from heavy wool. This kept them warm during the winter. Most people wore the same clothes day after day without washing them. The wealthy wore much nicer clothes made from fine wool, velvet, and silk. Men usually wore a tunic, woolen stockings, breeches, and a cloak. Women wore long skirts, called kirtles, an apron, woolen stockings, and a cloak. "Sumptuary" laws were passed stating who could wear what types of clothes, what color, and the materials they could use. The laws also regulated shoe lengths and height, hat height, types of buttons, and even the number of buttons people could wear. This separated nobles from peasants.



FOOD (PEASANTS)

There was not a lot of variety in peasants' food during the Middle Ages. They mostly ate bread and stew. The bread was usually gritty from the millstones used to grind the grain. This caused many people's teeth to wear down. Stew was made from beans, dried peas, cabbage, and other vegetables. Stew was sometimes flavored with bits of meat or bones. Meat, cheese, and eggs were saved for special occasions. Peasants could not hunt on the lord's land. The punishment for killing a deer was sometimes death. There was no way to keep meat cold, so people ate it fresh. Leftover meat was smoked or salted to preserve it. People mostly drank milk, ale, or wine because the water would make them sick.



FOOD (NOBLES)

Nobles ate a wider variety of food, including meats and sweet puddings. Kings and nobles held large banquets to show off their wealth and power. There were several courses of

food that took hours to prepare. Musicians played music and people danced. Banquets lasted for hours, especially when celebrating special occasions, such as Christmas, a military victory, or a royal wedding. Some common foods included vulture, peacock, whale, eel, and hedgehog. Haggis was another popular dish. It is the heart, liver, and lungs of a sheep, boiled in the sheep's stomach.

SCHOOL

Not many people attended school during the Middle Ages. Peasants learned their jobs and how to survive from their parents. Some children learned a craft during an apprenticeship. Wealthy children learned through tutors. They lived in castles of other lords and worked from them to learn how a large manor was run. Some schools were run by the church. Students learned to read and write in Latin. The first universities started during the Middle Ages. Students studied a wide range of subjects like reading, writing, logic, math, music, astronomy, and public speaking.

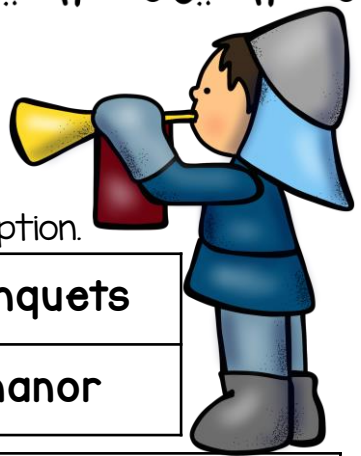


MARRIAGE

Marriages in the Middle Ages were often arranged. This meant women had to marry men chosen by their fathers. Noble girls were often married at age 12 and boys at 14. Married noblewomen and peasants were considered the property of their husbands. Women did domestic work, like caring for babies, making clothes, and cooking foods. They also worked on the land in trade too with their husbands.

Name _____

DAILY LIFE



IDENTIFY: Use the word bank to identify each description.

wool	rural	sumptuary	banquets
apprentices	stew	Latin	manor

	1. These laws determined what clothing people could wear in the Middle Ages
	2. Most people in medieval Europe lived in these areas
	3. This was made from beans, dried peas, cabbage, and other vegetables
	4. Boys were usually these to masters to learn a craft
	5. Large house where lords lived
	6. Peasants usually wore plain clothing made from this heavy material
	7. Kings and nobles often had these to show off their wealth and power
	8. Students learned to read and write in this language in the Middle Ages

MULTIPLE CHOICE: Choose the best answer.



9. What the main purpose of sumptuary laws?
 - A. To determine where people could work.
 - B. To tell people who they could marry.
 - C. To separate the nobles from peasants.
 - D. To determine where people could work.
10. Which is true about food during the Middle Ages?
 - A. There was a lot of variety in food.
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11. Which of the following is true about schools during the Middle Ages?
 - A. Some schools were run by the church.
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12. Which is true about marriage during the Middle Ages?
 - A. Women were able to choose their own husbands.
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13. Where did most people live during the Middle Ages?
 - A. Apartments in cities
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14. What is the main reason people mostly drank milk, ale, or wine during the Middle Ages?
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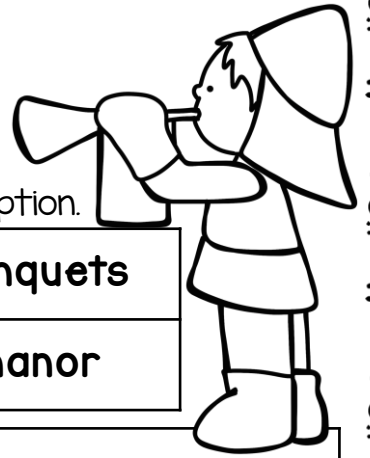


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DAILY LIFE



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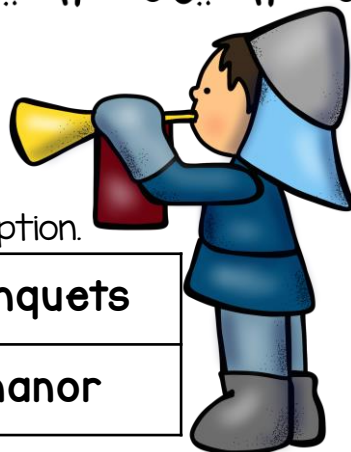
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Name_____KEY_____

DAILY LIFE



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THANKS!



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