



HOME LEARNING

Subject: History- Year 8 – The War of the Roses

Time to complete: 50 minutes

Learning Objective: To find information about the War of the Roses using a timeline. Investigate the lives of kings Henry VI and Edward IV.

TASK 1: Read the information on War of the Roses.

Task 2: Match each date to the King who was ruling at that time (Use the information in the timeline to help you).

TASK 3: Read the information about Henry VI and Edward IV and the Battle of Towton and fill in the correct details about each king.

Task 4: Watch the video clip of “Horrible Histories” showing the War of the Roses.

Save your work:

If you are using a computer, open a blank document to do your work (you can use Word or Publisher). Don't forget to SAVE it with your name, the lesson you are doing and the date.

For example: T.Smith Maths 8 April

If you would like us to see or mark your work please email it or send a photo of your completed work to the member of staff.

mnoble@glebe.bromley.sch.uk

TASK 1 – Read the following information about the War of the Roses

THE WAR OF THE ROSES

The War of the Roses was a difficult time for England. During this time 2 rich and powerful families both wanted to rule England. They had many battles against each other to try to take the crown (become King). The families were the House of Lancaster and the House of York.

The House of Lancaster had a red rose emblem  and the House of York had a white rose .

During this time the crown was passed back and forth between the 2 families after each battle was fought. Below is a short timeline on how the crown was passed back and forth between the 2 sides. The different coloured roses show you each time the crown changed hands.



Henry V's son, **Henry VI (6th)- 1422**, is from the House of Lancaster, and becomes King aged only one year old. When he is old enough to rule, he does it badly. He dislikes fighting, loses wars against the French and is a weak ruler. He also suffers from periods of madness.



Henry VI's distant cousin, **Edward**, from a rival family called the House of York, claims he should be king. He is a strong and capable leader, and defeats Henry VI in a fierce battle. The crown passes to him, and he becomes **Edward IV (4th) in 1461**.



Some nobles become angry at Edwards arrogance and laziness. He is thrown off the throne in **1470**, loses the crown and **Henry VI (6th)** becomes King again.



However, Henry VI lasts only one year. **Edward IV (4th)** builds up his army, defeats Henry VI again in a battle, and has Henry killed. **Edward IV** is now King once more in **1471**.



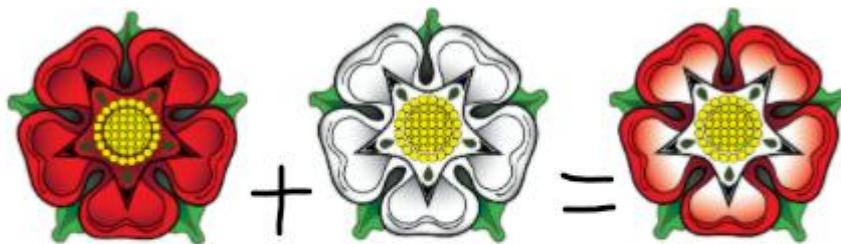
Edward IV rules successfully for 12 years, and is an excellent King. He dies in 1483, and everyone expects the crown to pass to his young son. However, his evil brother Richard locks Edward IV's sons, the two princes in the Tower of London, and has himself crowned **Richard III (3rd) in 1483**.



Rumours start to swirl around the country that Richard III has killed the two princes in the Tower so that he could be the unquestioned King. People are appalled and start to want a different person to become King. A member of the rival House of Lancaster called Henry Tudor raises an army in 1485 to challenge Richard III. He kills Richard in a famous battle called The Battle of Bosworth Field. Henry Tudor is crowned **Henry VII (7th) in 1485**.



Henry VII is desperate for all of the killing and the wars to be over. He therefore marries **Elizabeth of York in 1486**, from the rival House of York, to unite the two families and end the Wars of the Roses. He combines the red and white Roses to form the Tudor Rose to represent his family.



Lancaster Rose

York Rose

Tudor Rose

Henry VII	+	Elizabeth of York	=	Tudor Family
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TASK 2 – The dates below show when each of the people took power. Find the dates in the information above and write down who took control at each of these times or what happened. The dates are not in the correct order -see if you can put them in the correct chronological order. (earliest to latest)

- A) 1485-
- B) 1471-
- C) 1422-
- D) 1483-
- E) 1486-
- F) 1470-
- G) 1461-

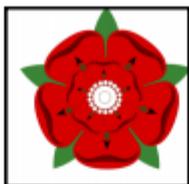
TASK 3- Read the information about the Battle of Towton and the Kings Henry VI (6th) and Edward IV (4th). Fill in the information about each of the 2 kings on the last page. See if you can find a picture of each of the 2 kings as well.

Battle of Towton (1461)

- This was one of the most important, and the most bloody battle during the Wars of the Roses. Some believe that is the largest battle ever fought on British soil.
- It was fought on a bitterly cold, snowy day on 29 March, between King Henry VI and the Yorkist challenger to the throne, Edward IV. Edward was a far better military commander than Henry, and easily beat his larger army.
- The battle is estimated to have involved between 50,000 and 80,000 soldiers, with around 28,000 casualties (1% of the England's population).
- So many died, that a red blood stain was said to have run through six miles of snow on the Towton battlefield.

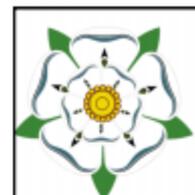
Henry VI

Henry ruled England from 1422 to 1461, and again from 1470 to 1471. He had a good claim to the throne, as his father and grandfather had been popular and successful Kings. However, he was a bad warrior who lost the Hundred Years War against France, and allowed England to fall into lawlessness and criminality. He was easily manipulated by his French wife, Margaret of Anjou, and suffered from periods of madness during which he would not even be able to eat!



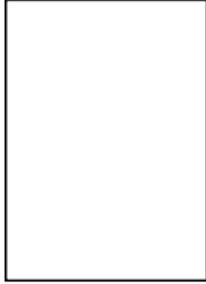
Edward IV

Edward IV took the throne from Henry VI in 1461, and ruled until 1483 (aside from a brief period 1470-71). He was a giant for the time, at 6 foot 2 inches, and an inspiring military leader. His family believed that Henry VI was not fit to be king, and that Edward (who was descended from Edward III) could do a better job. Edward won great victories in the Battles of Towton and Tewkesbury, and never lost a battle on English soil. He was a wise and capable king, but sometimes a bit lazy.



Henry VI versus Edward IV

Henry VI



When was Henry VI King? _____

Why did he think he should be King? _____

What sort of king was he? _____

Edward IV



When was Edward IV King? _____

Why did he think he should be King? _____

What sort of king was he? _____

Task 4- Copy and paste the 'Horrible Histories' link on the War of the Roses below and watch the video

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BMZv9ys60nk>