



A Teaching Resource

Herbert Learning

Medieval Mystery KS2 Contents



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INTRODUCTION

Session length: 1 hour and 30 minutes

Staff – pupil ratio: Minimum of 3 adults per visit

Session Description: Children will be split into three groups (one group with half the class, the other two are split between the other half) The session will be divided between three areas including the medieval section of the History Gallery, the open store (What's in Store?) and the medieval undercroft. During the independent part of the visit to the medieval gallery, children will have a bag of mystery objects to locate in the exhibition. The open store will provide an opportunity for children to draw archaeological finds from relevant periods of time. The undercroft will allow children to become archaeologists exploring and recording various artefacts.

This teacher's resource pack has been designed to support the KS2 school curriculum.

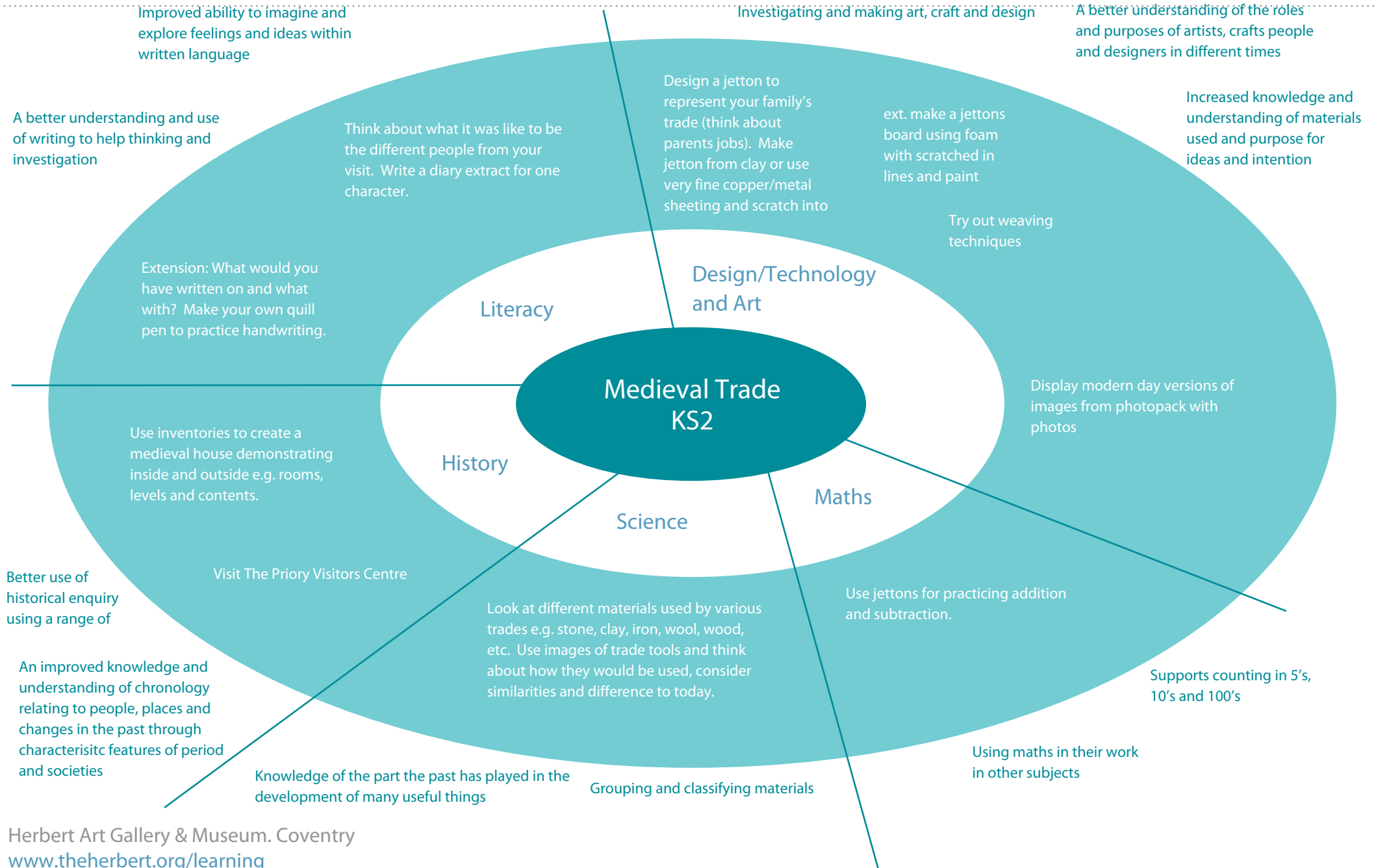
Within this pack you will find a selection of cross curricular activities supporting the development of key skills and other useful resources to complement your work in the classroom. The activities are suitable to be carried out pre or post visit to the Herbert and we strongly recommend a visit to the museum to get the most out of your pack.

Learning Outcomes

Through attending this session your children will build on the following skills:

- Improved speaking and listening skills, through group discussion and interaction
- A better understanding of chronology and improved knowledge and understanding of characteristic features of the period, societies and experiences
- Improved knowledge and understanding of relevant materials
- Improved ability to group and classify materials
- Developing the use of historical enquiry through a range of sources







REMINDER OF CHARACTERS FROM VISIT:

Crafts people



House Wives



Pilgrims



Merchants



Children





MEDIEVAL TOOLS



Thatchers needle

A thatcher's needle is used for roofing with various types of hay and threading them into bundles.

This can be seen in the History Gallery and an example is included in the session bags for children to handle.



Stone mould

A stone mould is a piece of stone carved for making small objects such as buckles. Melted metal is poured in between two stone moulds, which are removed when cooled.

This can be seen in the History Gallery and an example is included in the session bags for children to handle.



Spindle whorl

A spindle whorl is the weight which pulls the thread from the fleece into yarn when hand spinning.

This can be seen in the History Gallery and an example is included in the session bags for children to handle.



MEDIEVAL TOOLS



Whetstone

A whetstone is a tool used to sharpen tools used for trades such as carpentry and stone masonry.

This can be seen in the History Gallery and an example is included in the session bags for children to handle.



Parchment pricker

A Parchment pricker would have been used to make sure writing was in a straight line, similar to how we use a ruler today. This tool would have been used to make small indents in the paper or material to show where to write.

This can be seen in the History Gallery and an example is included in the session bags for children to handle.



Needle

A needle would have been used to sew materials together, to make things like clothing and even shoes.

This example is included in the session bags for children to handle and a similar example can be seen in the History Gallery.



MEDIEVAL TOOLS



Wattle and daub

Wattle and daub is a what was used to make walls in buildings during the medieval and Tudor times. It was also used much earlier than this. The process was to use wood strips such as hazel woven in an timber/oak frame and cover it with daub.

This can be seen in the History Gallery display.



Daub

Daub is a plaster made from clay soil, urine, horse hair or straw, which is then plastered over the wattle frame of a building.

This is included in the session bags for the children to handle.



Wooden peg

A wooden peg would have been used to fix two pieces of wooden frame together. A carpenter would make a hole in the joints and hammer a peg through. When the wood swells it makes a firm fixture.

This is included in the session bags for the children to handle.



MEDIEVAL TOOLS



Iron Nail

This is an iron nail. An iron nail of this size would mostly be used for decoration of things such as doors.

This example can be handled within the session.



Medieval Door

This medieval door, which can be seen in the gallery demonstrates a use for an iron nail. These larger nails were often used for decoration rather than practical uses.



Floor Tile

This is an example of a decorative floor tile. A similar one can be seen in the gallery and a border tile can be handled within the session. This would have made up part of a larger pattern.



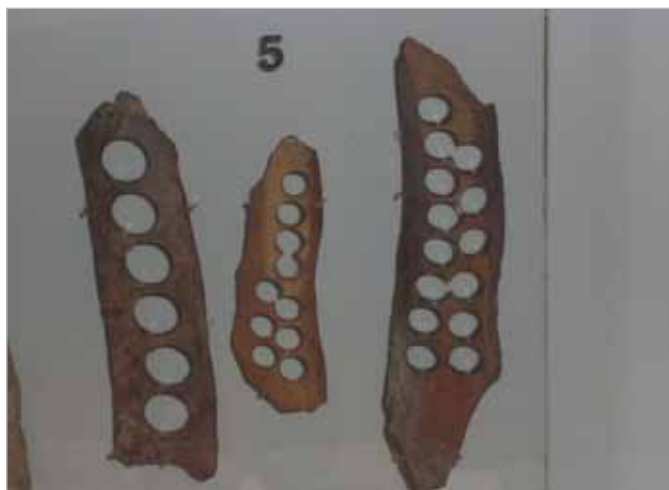
MEDIEVAL TOOLS



Tyg

A tyg is a form of drinking vessel. They have varying numbers of handles. The most common have around three handles. The purpose of these was so that it could be handed to other people more easily. You would often find these in a public house, with people drinking ale or beer from them.

An example of tyg remains can be seen both in the gallery and in the session bags.



Button Blanks

Button blanks are the remaining bone after buttons have been cut out. The bone would usually be from a cow.

These examples can be seen in the gallery and children can handle examples within the session.



Buckles

Buckles could be used for anything from belts to shoe buckles. They would have been made by pouring molten metal into a stone mould.

These can be seen in the History Gallery and an example is included in the session bags for children to handle.



MEDIEVAL TOOLS



Chisel

A stone mason's chisel used to carve and shape stone.

This can be seen in the History Gallery.



Crucible

Crucibles are small clay pots, which were used to melt metal to pour into stone moulds.

This can be seen in the History Gallery and a smaller example is included in the session bags for the children to handle.



Small shears

Used for cutting anything from hair to cloth. These particular ones would not have been used for shearing animals.

This can be seen in the History Gallery.



MEDIEVAL TOOLS



Pinner's bone

A pinner's bone would have been used to rest pins when making their points and heads. Small lengths of wire were held in place in the grooves. One end was sharpened and wire was wound round the other end to form the pinhead.

This can be seen in the History Gallery and an example is included in the session bags for children to handle.



Thimbles

Used by various trades including leather worker's and tailor's to protect their fingers from needles and pins.

This can be seen in the History Gallery.



Jews harp and tuning fork

The bone tuning instruments would have been used to tune medieval string instruments such as the lute, which a wealthy person would have owned. The Jews Harp (left) was an instrument held in the mouth and plucked.

This can be seen in the History Gallery.



MEDIEVAL TOOLS



Cup weight

This cup weight would have been used for weighing precious metal such as gold.



Cup weight

This cup weight would have been used for weighing precious metal such as silver.



Cup weight holder

The various cup weights would have fitted into each other and kept in a cup weight holder such as the above image.



MEDIEVAL ARTEFACTS



Money pot

This is a fragment of a medieval money pot, similar to money boxes today. This would have held any money belonging to a person as there were no banks.

This can be seen in the History Gallery.



Strainers

These strainers were used to scoop out boiled meat and vegetables from a cooking pot. The liquid would have been kept and made into soup.

This can be seen in the History Gallery.



Pipkin

A small cooking pot, used on an open hearth. A saucepan in the medieval times would have been used only for cooking sauces in.

This can be seen in the History Gallery. There is also pot fragments included in the session bags for the children to handle.



MEDIEVAL ARTEFACTS



Bracer

This would have been worn on the left arm (wrist) to protect during archery.

This can be seen in the History Gallery.



Mystery play ,mask

A mask worn during the medieval mystery plays, which took part in the streets. It is thought to be the only surviving object from coventry's Mystery Plays

This can be seen in the History Gallery.



Boot

This can be seen in the medieval part of the History Gallery.

This can be seen in the History Gallery.



MEDIEVAL ARTEFACTS



Coin

A gold coin from the reign of Edward IV.

This can be seen in the History Gallery.



Coins

A selection of coins from the 1400s

This can be seen in the History Gallery. There is also a selection of replica coins for the children to look more closely at in the session bags.



Groat

This silver groat is from the reign of Henry VII.

This can be seen in the History Gallery.



MEDIEVAL ARTEFACTS



Ice skate

To tie this to the foot there would have been two loops of string or leather from each hole. One would fit around the ankle and the other around the toes.

This can be seen in the History Gallery.



Chess piece

This is the King or Queen playing piece from a chess game, which would have been owned by the wealthy. It is a rare piece to find.

This can be seen in the History Gallery.



Dice/Die

This would have been used for playing games. It is hand made with ring and dot feature. This dice is similar to today in that the opposite side adds to seven, unlike earlier Roman examples.

This can be seen in the History Gallery.



MEDIEVAL JETTONS

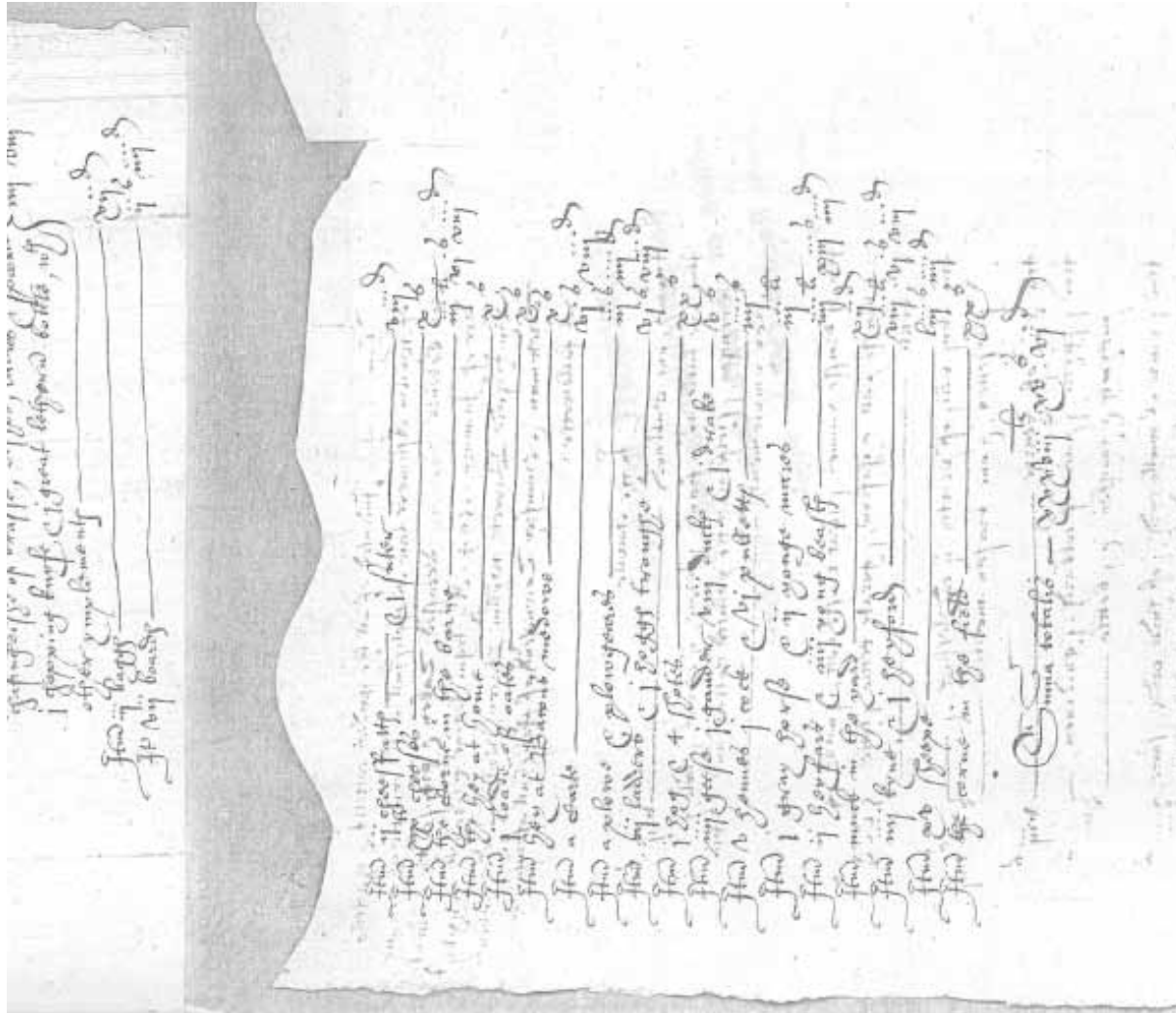


Jettons

Jettons were used to work calculate for example trade accounts.



INVENTORY FOR W. ASHMORE 1594/5





INVENTORY TRANSCRIPTION FOR W. ASHMORE 1594/5

TRANSCRIPTION OF PART OF INVENTORY OF WILLIAM ASHMORE, 1593

In the hawlle (hall)

- Imprimis [firstly] one cupboard 8 shillings
- Item, one table with a frame [i.e frame for the base plus a flat top]. 8 shillings
- 1 form, 2 chairs, 1 stool and benches, 1 shelf with the painted cloths; and other implements 30 shillings
- Item 2 brass pans, 1 great brass pot, 1 small brass pot, a chaferner [pot for keeping food warm], 1 great kettle, 1 little kettle 6 shillings, 8 pence
- Item 8 pieces of pewter, 2 candlesticks, 1 saltcellar and one brazen mortar 8 shillings
- Item 12 pounds of yarn
- Item 1 spit, 1 pair of cupboards, 1 gridiron [griddle – we seem to be in fact in the kitchen] 4 shillings
- pothooks and “hangles” [ratchet which raised and lowered the spit], and 1 bottle 4 shillings
- Item one pair of wool cards [for carding wool], 1 handsaw, 1 iron wedge and 1 bill [billhook] 2 shillings
- Item 1 tewe [plough], 1 coulter, 1 share, with old iron

In the chamber

- Item 4 coffers, 1 salting-tub, 1 barrel, 1 loom, 1 churn, 2 pails, 1 woollen wheel 13 shillings
- Item one feather bed, with the furniture about the bed 20 shillings
- Item 8 pairs of sheets 32 shillings
- Item 2 board cloths [tablecloths], 2 pillowberes [pillowcases], 1 towel, 1 wallet 5 shillings, 6 pence
- Item 9 ells of new cloth 6 shillings
- Item 1 christening sheet 3 shillings, 4 pence
- Item a gown cloth of 4.5 yards, and 3 yards of linen 13 shillings 4 pence



TRADES

MEDIEVAL OCCUPATIONS

Many common surnames come from what people did in medieval times. Surnames were not frequently used as there were many clans and castes of people.

It was very common to refer to someone as "Robert the mason" or "James the blacksmith" and became recognised as family names, as many trades continued in families.

CARPENTER

Carpenters were highly skilled, most having joined a guild to be trained in the craft before embarking on their own career. Carpenters were responsible for making most everyday things in the medieval period, including; homes, furniture, tools and utensils.

As well as using tools, essential maths skills were required. A master carpenter was always in demand and could stand to earn high wages.

STONE CARVER

Stone Carvers were important in medieval society. Their work included aspects such as engraving tombstones, carving tools and statues. Like carpentry many stone carvers acquired their skills through joining a guild. Although Stone Carvers were often classified as a group in their own right the guild also sometimes included stone masons and bricklayers. Stone Carvers wages were generally higher than average meaning they could earn a decent living.

WEAVER

A Weaver's work ranged from weaving clothes and baskets to making furniture and crafts.

Unlike other crafts there were no guilds to protect or train them, so skills were generally self-taught as a hobby. Most people knew how to weave and those who chose it as a business did not get much return.

SHOEMAKER

Shoemakers (or cobblers) designed and made footwear. Their work was regarded as necessary but as material was expensive, not all were able to afford them. Shoemakers often earned only average wages.

POTTER

Potters were crafts people who worked with clay moulds, porcelains and early forms of ceramics. They produced pots for cooking and storage. Potters were usually members of guilds. Although their products were regularly required and bought they were not paid to reflect this.

LOCKSMITH

Although most homes held little more than an internal wooden slide lock on the inside, Locksmiths became important with the developments and security of castles and securing criminals in dungeons. To maintain security Locksmiths were trained in guilds and the secrets of their craft were kept highly guarded and as a result earned high wages.

CLOTHIER

Being a Clothier meant having a knowledge of various materials and how to assemble them, requiring knowledge of maths and design skills. The clothing of the time had to be durable, fashionable and decorative as even during the medieval times, clothing was more of a status symbol. Depending on who they made clothes for they could earn a decent wage.

CANDLEMAKER

The Candlemaker was a specialist not only with the making of candles (which is relatively easy), but also with the knowledge of the bees that provided the wax to make them.

Once the wax was made a wick constructed of cord or twine was soaked in an oil-based solution, inserted into the center of the wax mold and then the candle was either pressed or shaped by hand.

BAKER

A Baker was a common occupation. In the medieval times there was a period when bakers began cheating the buyers. As bread was required daily, the bakers knew that they could charge a lot of money for not very much. The common term "A Baker's Dozen" (meaning 13 instead of 12) came from this time period. Any baker caught selling less than an even dozen was strictly and harshly punished. As a result bakers began adding one extra loaf to be certain their count would be correct or even over the amount decreed by law. Good bakers were often invited and employed by the rich as personal cooks and chefs and these could be from any class.



Labourer	Semiskilled	<1d	5d	2s 3d	L1 4s
Mason	Master	4d	2s	10s	L5 4s 3d
Carpenter	Master	3d	1s 6d	7s 6d	L3 18s 2d
	Guild incapacitated stipend	2d	1s 2d	5s 10d	L3 10d
Weaver	Guild	5d	1s 11d	9s 8d	L5 1s 4d

d = penny (taken from the Roman silver coin 'denarius')

s = shilling (however there was not a coin to represent this just the symbol in the medieval/Tudor period so s = 12 pence /12d)

L = pound (= 20s or 240d)



MONEY

The value of medieval coins was their weight in precious metal.

One of the ways the monarchy had of raising money was to re-issue the coins at a lower weight and keep the difference. Anyone who decided to try this for themselves, by "clipping" or filing the edges of the coins could be executed. In order to reduce this, and to provide an early warning system that coins were being clipped, a long cross was introduced on the backs of coins, which reached the edges. Around the outside of the coin, a pattern of dots was used to show where the outside should be.

The chart below gives comparative values of both the gold and silver denominations available in 1350 during the reign of Edward III. In the final column is an indicator of the relative value or spending power of the medieval coin in today's money based on figures from the Bank of England.

	Noble	1/2-Noble	1/4-Noble	Groat	1/2-groat	Penny	1/2-penny	Farthing	Modern equivalent
Noble	1	2	4	20	40	80	160	320	£56.43
1/2-Noble	-	1	2	10	20	40	80	160	£28.22
1/4-Noble	-	-	1	5	10	20	40	80	£14.11
Groat	-	-	-	1	2	4	8	16	£7.05
1/2-groat	-	-	-	-	1	2	4	8	£3.53
Penny	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	4	£1.76
1/2-penny	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	£0.88
Farthing	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	£0.44

The cost of goods and services in around 1350

- Average pay for a carpenter: 4 1/4 d.
- Bull: 7 s. 8 d.
- Cart-horse: 24 s. 7 d.
- Sow: 3 s. 9 d.
- Lamb: 4 d.
- Hens: 2 d.
- Geese: 3 3/8 d.
- Pigeons (12): 4 1/4 d.
- 7 lb clove of wool: 1 s. 6 d.
- Gallon of butter: 8 1/2 d.
- 100 eggs: 4 3/4 d.
- 12 lbs candles: 1 s. 10 d.
- 252 gallons of cider: 13 s. 5 1/2 d.
- 12 gallons of imported wine: 10 s. 1 1/2 d.
- Apples (qr): 7 d.
- Charcoal (qr): 7 1/2 d.
- Salt (bushel): 1 s. 2 1/4 d.
- Iron (25 esperducts): 20 s. 1/2 d.
- 100 nails: 6 1/4 d.
- 100 horseshoes: 8 s. 9 d.
- Wheel: 5 s. 9 1/2 d.
- 12 ells table linen: 4 s.
- 1 gallon of imported oil: 1 s. 4 3/4 d.
- lb of pepper: 2 s. 6 d.
- lb of sugar: 1 s. 2 d.
- lb of almonds: 2 1/4 d.
- lb of ginger: 1 s. 9 1/4 d.
- lb of saffron: 15 s.

with thanks to <http://www.finds.org.uk/medievalcoins/values.php> in association with The British Museum



CRIME AND PUNISHMENT FACT SHEET

To prevent crime in the medieval period the idea was to make the punishments so severe that the people would be too scared to commit any crime. These consisted of fines, shaming (usually the stocks), and mutilation (cutting off a part of the body, usually in relation to the crime e.g. stealing could have resulted in a hand being cut off) even death was a form of punishment. There were no police at this time. Instead the men of villages would be split into groups of 10 (called a tithing) and if any one of them broke the law, each other would have the responsibility to ensure sending the criminal to court for trial.

The Manorial Court (Trial by Jury) – this dealt with most crimes, other than the most severe, where all villagers would have to attend or pay a fine. A Jury would be selected from the villagers.

The Kings Court (Trial by Ordeal) – serious crimes were taken to the Kings court to face trial by ordeal, which included:

Ordeal by Fire

The accused had to pick up a red hot iron bar and hold it while they walked three or four paces. Their hand was then bandaged. After three days they had to return to the court where the bandages were removed. If the wound was beginning to heal they were innocent but if the wound showed no sign of healing then they were pronounced Guilty.

Ordeal by Water

The accused had their hands and feet tied together. They were then thrown into water. If they floated they were guilty but if they sank they were innocent.

Ordeal by Combat

Noblemen would fight (usually to the death) in combat with their accuser. The winner of the battle would be considered to be in the right.

After 1215 Trial by Ordeal was replaced by Trial by Jury
Instructions for using jettons

Story

A baker added lead to his bread to make it heavier and whiter so that his customers would like the look of it and pay more. This was not allowed.

What punishment would you see fit to suit the crime?



HOW TO USE JETTONS



Teacher Instructions for using jettons (French)/reckoning counter (English) for adding and subtracting

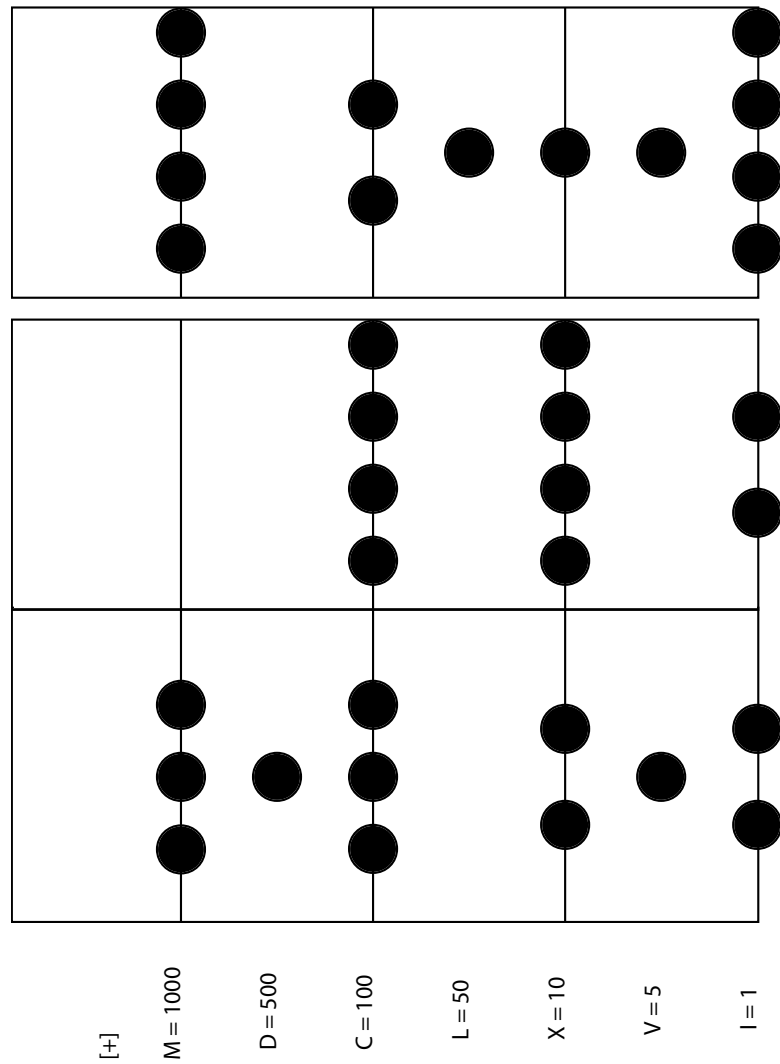
Note: only give subtraction to more able children as a challenge as it is harder than addition.

Jettons are coin-like. People only needed to count up to 5, as there were never any more than 4 counters on any line and only one within a square. Boards were used (these could be wooden, leather or simply scratched/engraved onto a surface e.g. table).

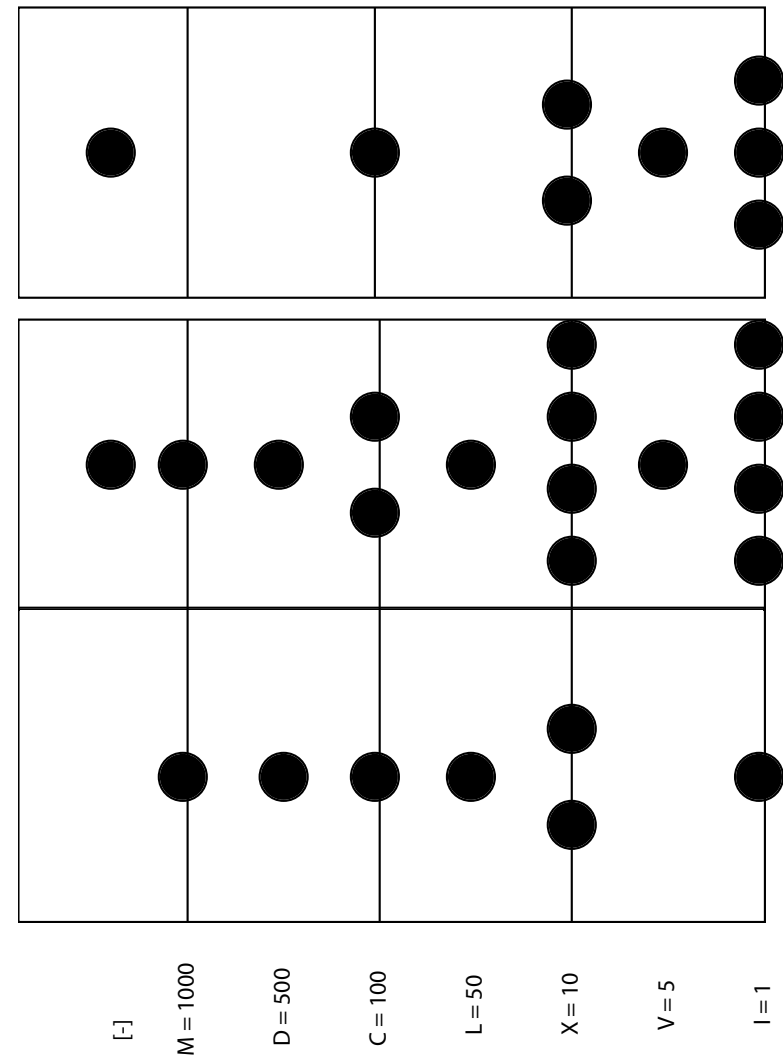
When there needed to be 5 or more on a line the counters would simply move up or taken from/to the next column. It is what the abacus is based on. See diagram.



HOW TO USE JETTONS



You may only have 4 jettons on each line. When you have more, every 5 equals 1 on the line above it, leaving only the remaining jettons behind.





Inventories: a list of belongings from a house or company, usually only the wealthy would have had these in medieval and early Tudor

Moiety: a small house ajoined to another house, usually at the back

Jetton: a french word, used for calculating money

Priory: usually joined to cathedrals or churches, where monks would have lived and worked

Merchant: a person who sells goods

Stocks: a form of punishment where people would have their legs locked in a wooden frame

Craftsman: a skilled worker of many trades
Trade: where goods are exported or inported from other places

Trade: when goods are exported or imported from another place

Spindle whorl: A spindle whorl is the weight which pulls the thread from the fleece into yarn when hand spinning.

Crucible: Crucibles are small clay pots, which were used to melt metal to pour into stone moulds

Pinner's bone: A pinner's bone would have been used to rest pins when making their points and heads.



Money purse



If you are interested in finding out more detailed information about medieval trade then have a look at the following websites.

Medieval Prices

<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/medievalprices.html>

Value of Medieval Money

<http://www.finds.org.uk/medievalcoins/values.php>