

What should I already know?

How a castle protects the people who live inside
 Where the most important parts of the castle are
 Why they are there
 Where people lived in the castle
 What other jobs a castle must do

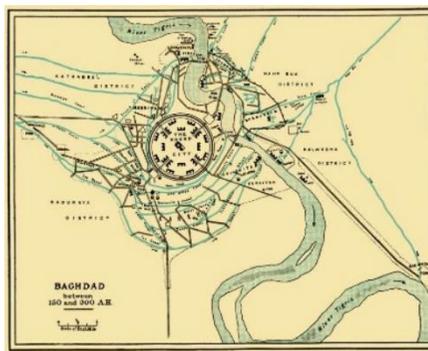
Vocabulary

Caliph	The chief Muslim civil and religious ruler, regarded as the successor of Muhammad. The caliph ruled in Baghdad until 1258.
Al-Mansur	Al-Mansur was a caliph who founded the Abbasid Caliphate and decided to build a new city called Baghdad.
Baghdad	Baghdad at the time was the largest city in the world, with a population of about 1 million. Situated between two rivers, it was also at the centre of the world's great trade routes and the caliph was therefore extremely wealthy this was key to the success of the Golden Age of Islam.
Silk Route	A historic trade route. It was called the Silk Route because of the heavy silk trading that took place during that period.

Diagrams



Silk Route



Baghdad

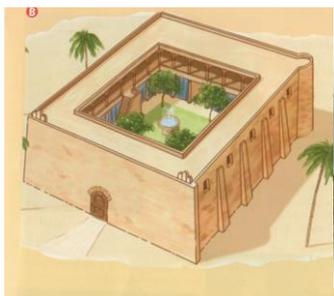
Key Facts

Early Islam	Most historians accept that Islam originated in Mecca and Medina at the start of the 7th century CE.
Difference between Europe and the Islamic world at this time.	The difference between Europe and the Islamic world at this time was that in Europe very few people could read or write. The caliphs invited scholars to Baghdad to come together to study complicated subjects, translate books into Arabic and teach each other.
Location of Baghdad	The location of Baghdad was a good place for a new city because it was between two important rivers, next to farming land and in the middle of the Silk Road.
House of Wisdom	The House of Wisdom was founded either as a library in the late 8th century or was a private collection created by Al-Mansur (754–775) to house rare books and collections of poetry. The House of Wisdom and its contents were destroyed in the Siege of Baghdad in 1258.

Diagrams



Mustansiriyah Madrasah, one of the oldest universities in the world.



Homes in Baghdad and UK around the same time period in history.



Pupils are able to incorporate a variety of written clues into visual format.

They are able to creatively construct an image of what Baghdad would have looked like as a team working collaboratively.

Pupils understand that nothing remains, but we can reconstruct from written reports of visitors etc.