



TEACHER'S RESOURCE GUIDE

Time Soldiers[®] Book #4: Arthur

BY KATHLEEN DUEY



Follow the Time Soldiers to the magical world of King Arthur!

About This Book...

The Time Soldiers[®] series continues in the legendary world of King Arthur. In their fourth adventure, the Time Soldiers rescue Arthur Pendragon, the boy-king who has to prove himself by pulling an ancient sword free from the stone that holds it. Along the way they meet Merlin, the magician of the ages; struggle to escape an evil knight; face the terror of a swinging rope bridge being cut from beneath them; defeat a raging dragon; and struggle to understand why the time portal brought them to this mythical place.

About This Guide...

The story of King Arthur is legendary — the tale of a boy, destined to become a king, who must first brave treachery and prove himself by doing the impossible. Young readers, spellbound by the magical events of this adventure, will follow young Arthur as he and his daring companions courageously fight for honor.

The activities suggested in this guide will introduce students to the world of medieval Europe and foster learning and literacy across the curriculum.

Prereading Activities

Prepare young learners for *Arthur* by first asking students what they know about the story of Merlin the magician and young King Arthur. Invite students to describe the attributes of this young hero and other mythical heroes. Finally, discuss the importance of courage and personal responsibility in Arthur's actions.



Vocabulary Development

Vocabulary List

The following words are found in the story Arthur. Work with a partner to find the definition of each word. Then choose a topic and write a paragraph using at least six of these words.

- | | |
|-----------|------------|
| AGILE | INTERFERE |
| ARMORY | JOUST |
| COMMOTION | LEGEND |
| COMPANION | PROCESSION |
| CORRIDOR | SCURRY |
| DESTINY | TOURNAMENT |



Crossword Puzzle

This crossword puzzle has only one clue – the word provided. Take a look at the vocabulary list and choose the words that fit in the puzzle.



Castle Chaos

Unscramble the letters below to spell some of the parts of a castle. Then draw a line from the unscrambled word to its correctly spelled partner in the right column. To help get you started, the first word has been done for you.

S L C T A E

T A O M

R O A R Y M

G T E A

G O N E U D N

W E T O R

G I B R D D E W R A

R O U D R Y T A C

R A G E T L A H L

C A S T L E

— — — —

— — — — —

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— — — — — — — — —

— — — — — — — —

— — — — — — — —

ARMORY

TOWER

GREAT HALL

CASTLE

COURTYARD

MOAT

GATE

DUNGEON

DRAWBRIDGE

Reading Comprehension

Retelling the Story

Read each sentence below. Then write agree or disagree in the blank.

- _____ 1. Jon, Mariah and Adam did not go through the time portal because they needed to do their homework.
- _____ 2. Caitlin, Brian and the other Time Soldiers studied in the library — a place they all loved.
- _____ 3. The men in dark suits were not surprised to see Merlin the magician on their computer screens.
- _____ 4. Although startled when he first met them, Arthur was happy to have the Time Soldiers for companions.
- _____ 5. The Time Soldiers entered the castle to find Caitlin.
- _____ 6. While inside the castle, Bernardo felt a bat fly over his head.
- _____ 7. Evil Sir Edward thought he — not Arthur — should be king.
- _____ 8. The Time Soldiers distracted the dragon by lighting a fire in the tower.
- _____ 9. The villagers cheered when Arthur drew the sword from the stone.

Discussion Questions

1. In this episode, two new children became Time Soldiers. What were their names? Name the Time Soldiers who stayed behind. Why didn't they go along? What did they have in common?
2. Even though this was Caitlin's first trip through the time portal, she knew right away that they had traveled to ancient England. She even knew what time it was! Name some of the clues that she used to determine where they were.
3. Why was Arthur angry with himself once inside the castle?
4. The events that took place on the rope bridge were dangerous and exciting! Describe in a few sentences what happened as the Time Soldiers crossed the bridge.

Writing Enrichment Activities

- ◆ Tournament games helped the knights train for real battle. Jousting, where knights on horseback fought each other one-on-one, was a common game, but there were many others. Search the Internet or check library books for information about these training exercises and share your findings with your classmates.
- ◆ Why do you think Arthur was afraid to be king? In your answer, consider Arthur's age compared with the age of a typical leader. Also, think about the character traits that are necessary in a strong leader. Finally, think of ways that you can demonstrate leadership qualities with your friends and classmates.
- ◆ As this adventure begins, Jon reminds Caitlin and Brian that companions are like family — they take care of each other. A companion is a friend. In Arthur, there are many groups of companions. Give some examples. Then think of your companions and explain how they are in some ways like members of your family.

Curriculum Enrichment Activities

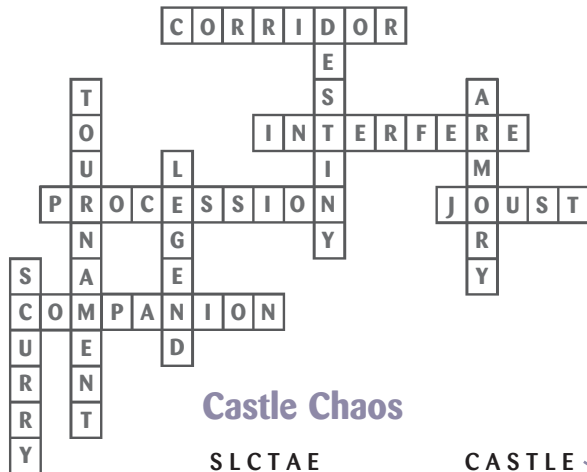
HISTORY: Castles were home to more than just royalty. Knights, servants and other workers also lived inside castle walls. Gather details about castles from the library and Internet and then build a model castle for your classroom. Remember to include the great hall, an armory, a dungeon, a moat and drawbridge, the courtyard, a tower and the main gate.

SCIENCE: Curing diseases was not always easy for doctors who practiced medicine during the Middle Ages. The causes of many illnesses and diseases were unknown, and that made treating them very difficult. One of the most feared diseases of the time was the Black Plague. Millions of people in Europe died from this disease. Research the facts of the Plague and report on them.

Answers

Vocabulary Development

Crossword Puzzle



Castle Chaos

- | | | |
|------------|------------|------------|
| SLCTAE | CASTLE | ARMORY |
| TAOM | MOAT | TOWER |
| ROARYM | ARMORY | GREAT HALL |
| GTEA | GATE | CASTLE |
| GONEUDN | DUNGEON | COURTYARD |
| WETOR | TOWER | MOAT |
| GIBRDDEWRA | DRAWBRIDGE | GATE |
| ROUDRYTAC | COURTYARD | DUNGEON |
| RAGET LAHL | GREAT HALL | DRAWBRIDGE |

Reading Comprehension

Retelling the Story

1. disagree
2. agree
3. disagree
4. agree
5. disagree
6. disagree
7. agree
8. disagree
9. agree

Discussion Questions

1. The new Time Soldiers were Caitlin and Brian. Jon, Adam and Mariah stayed behind. All three had very painful headaches when they entered the time portal. They also are older than the other Time Soldiers.
2. The clothing that Arthur wore and the types of trees along the creek banks were clues to the Time Soldiers' location. Caitlin could tell the time of day by the sun's location in the sky.
3. Arthur was angry because he had disobeyed Merlin. Instead of going straight to the village to find the sword in the stone, he and the Time Soldiers stopped at a nearby castle to watch knights compete in tournament games. There, Arthur was captured by guards and taken to a cell in the castle.

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