

## SUGGESTIONS FOR TEACHER INPUT

\* Much effort has gone into researching the background information for this unit. Although there were some discrepancies throughout the resource materials, we have included the facts that were most consistently used.

Although we have used the spelling "Medieval", it is also correct if spelled "Mediaeval".

After the children have an ample amount of knowledge, the materials in this unit can be used in the following ways:

1. at activity centres
2. as whole group activities
3. compiled into a student booklet
4. in conjunction with your reading program

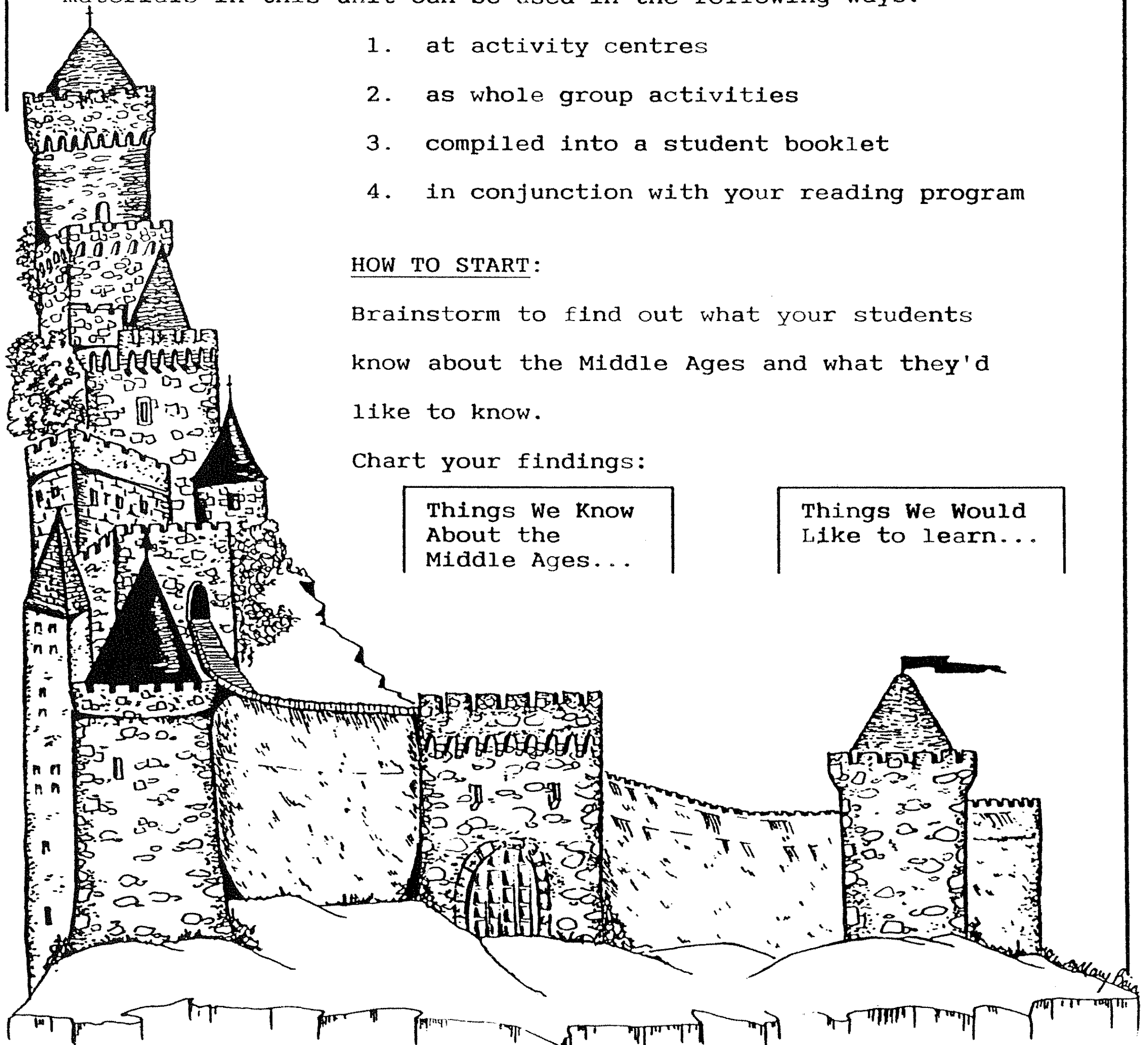
### HOW TO START:

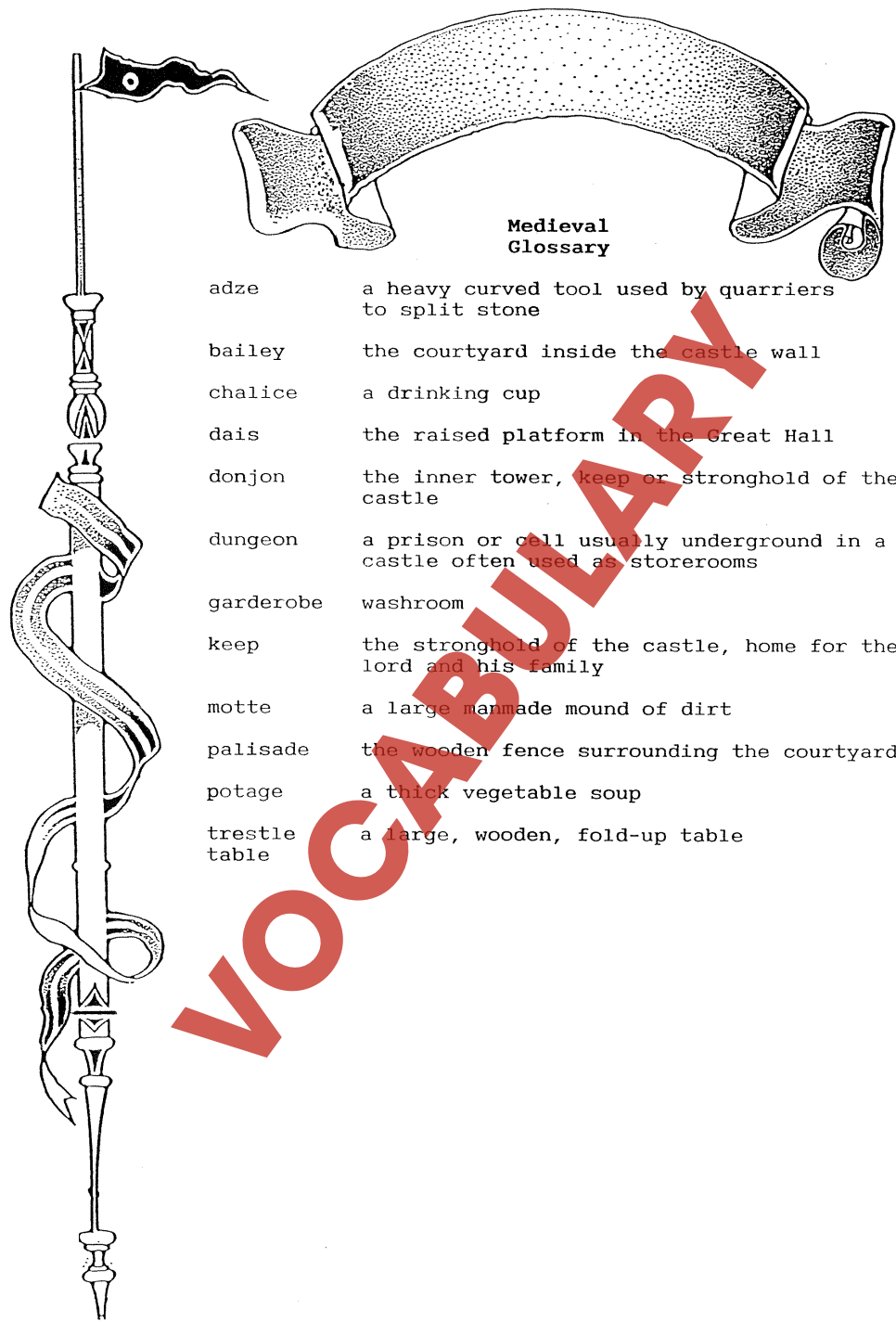
Brainstorm to find out what your students know about the Middle Ages and what they'd like to know.

Chart your findings:

Things We Know  
About the  
Middle Ages...

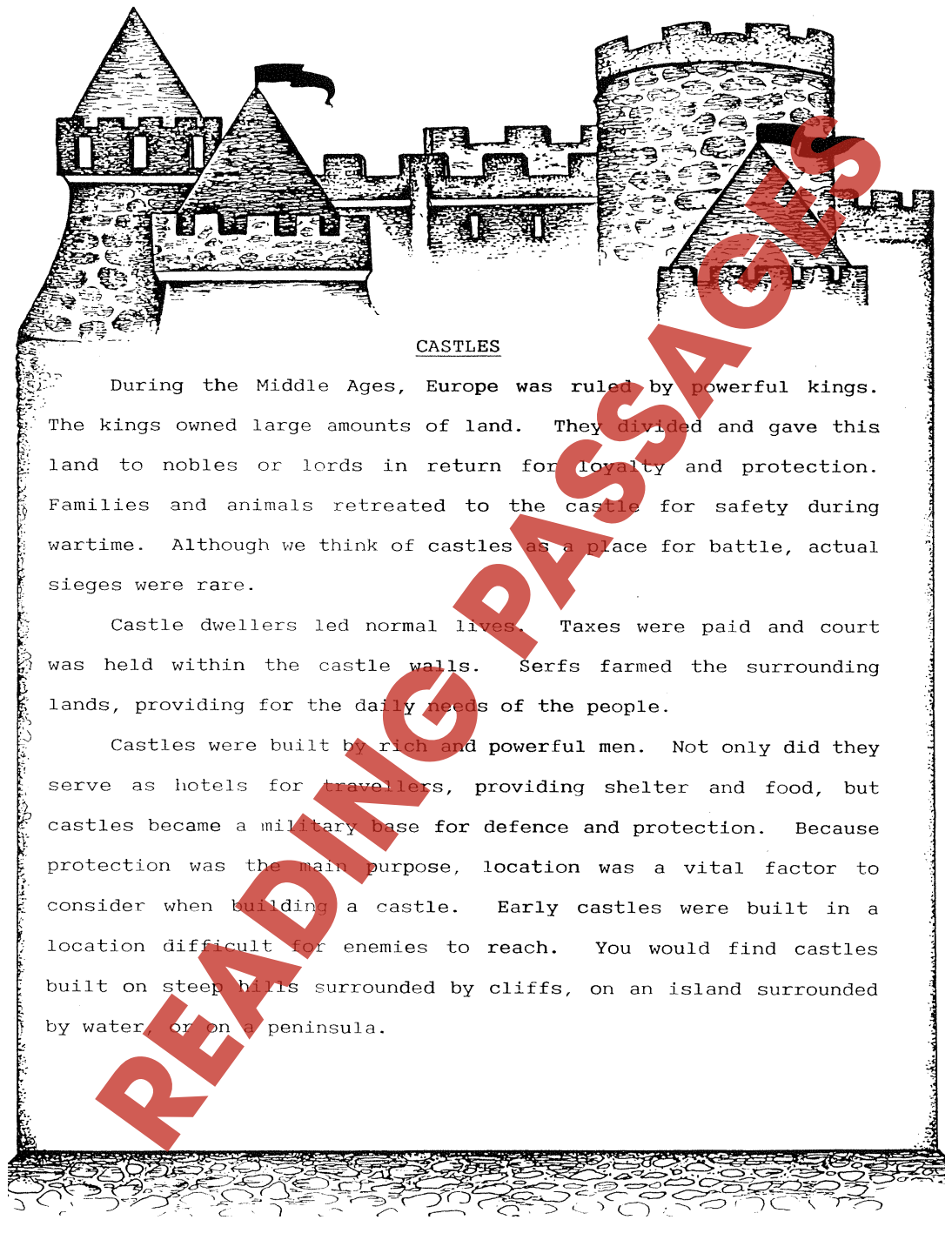
Things We Would  
Like to learn...





### Medieval Glossary

adze	a heavy curved tool used by quarriers to split stone
bailey	the courtyard inside the castle wall
chalice	a drinking cup
dais	the raised platform in the Great Hall
donjon	the inner tower, keep or stronghold of the castle
dungeon	a prison or cell usually underground in a castle often used as storerooms
garderobe	washroom
keep	the stronghold of the castle, home for the lord and his family
motte	a large manmade mound of dirt
palisade	the wooden fence surrounding the courtyard
potage	a thick vegetable soup
trestle table	a large, wooden, fold-up table

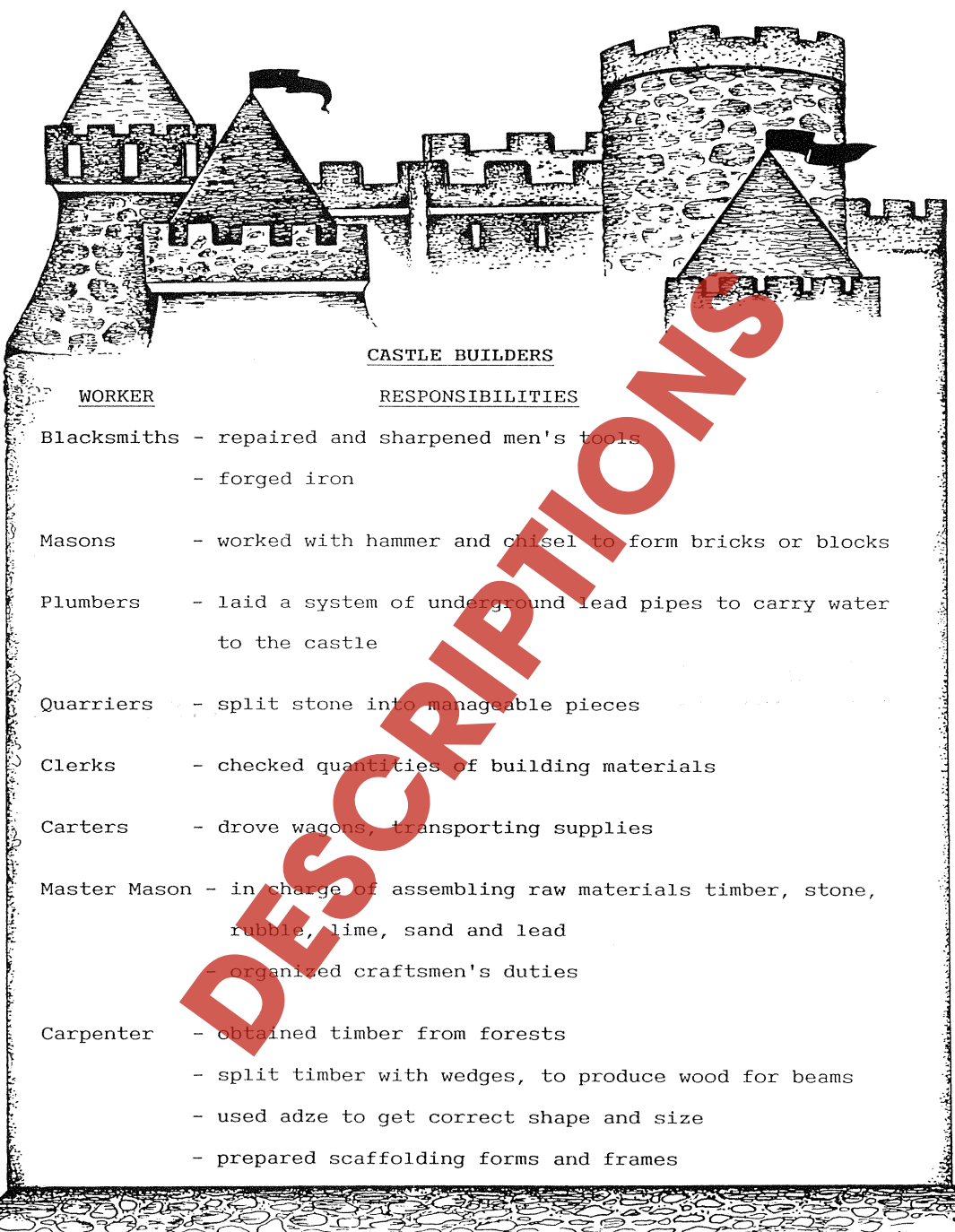


### CASTLES

During the Middle Ages, Europe was ruled by powerful kings. The kings owned large amounts of land. They divided and gave this land to nobles or lords in return for loyalty and protection. Families and animals retreated to the castle for safety during wartime. Although we think of castles as a place for battle, actual sieges were rare.

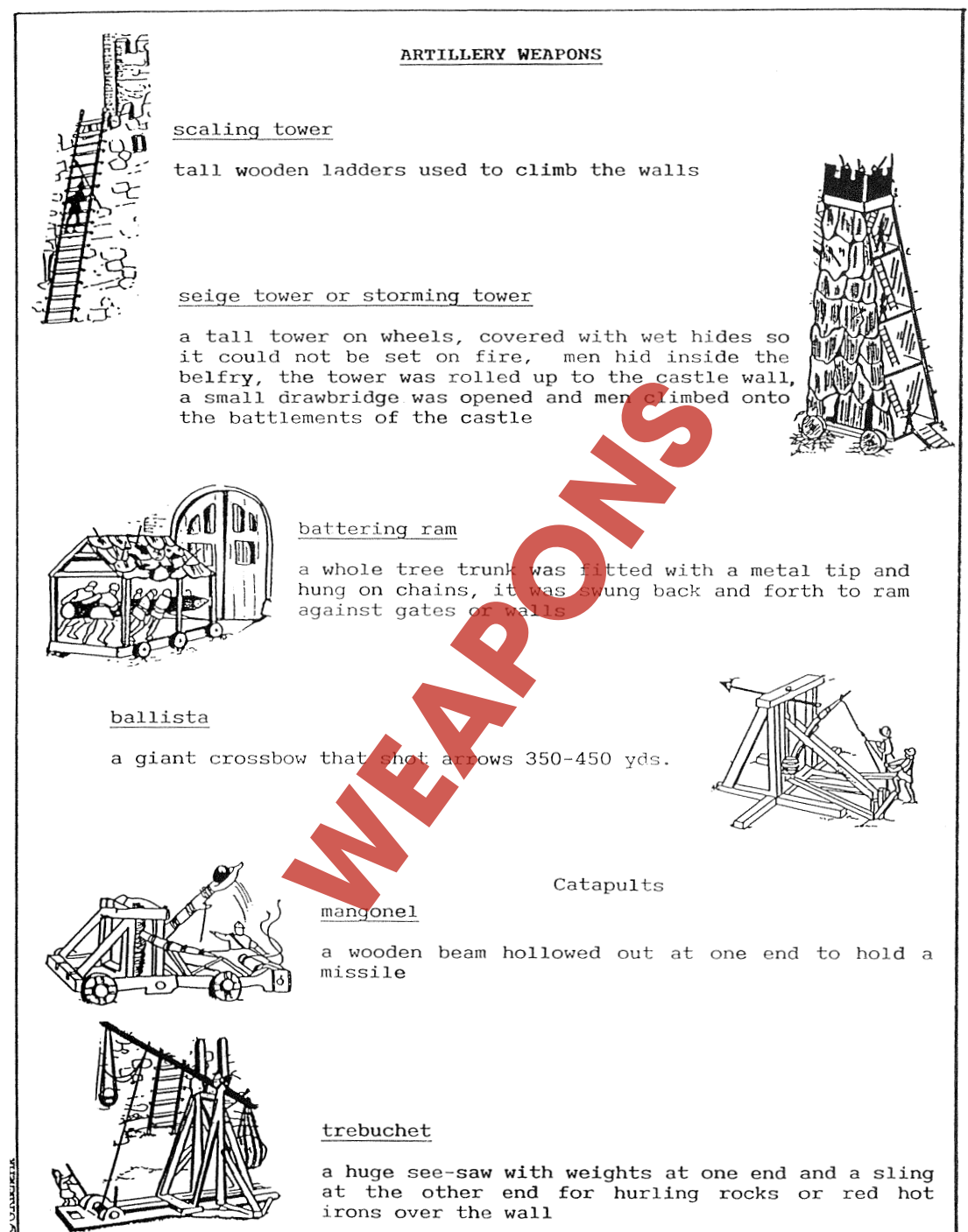
Castle dwellers led normal lives. Taxes were paid and court was held within the castle walls. Serfs farmed the surrounding lands, providing for the daily needs of the people.

Castles were built by rich and powerful men. Not only did they serve as hotels for travellers, providing shelter and food, but castles became a military base for defence and protection. Because protection was the main purpose, location was a vital factor to consider when building a castle. Early castles were built in a location difficult for enemies to reach. You would find castles built on steep hills surrounded by cliffs, on an island surrounded by water or on a peninsula.



### CASTLE BUILDERS

WORKER	RESPONSIBILITIES
Blacksmiths	- repaired and sharpened men's tools - forged iron
Masons	- worked with hammer and chisel to form bricks or blocks
Plumbers	- laid a system of underground lead pipes to carry water to the castle
Quarriers	- split stone into manageable pieces
Clerks	- checked quantities of building materials
Carters	- drove wagons, transporting supplies
Master Mason	- in charge of assembling raw materials timber, stone, rubble, lime, sand and lead - organized craftsmen's duties
Carpenter	- obtained timber from forests - split timber with wedges, to produce wood for beams - used adze to get correct shape and size - prepared scaffolding forms and frames



### ARTILERY WEAPONS

#### scaling tower

tall wooden ladders used to climb the walls

#### seige tower or storming tower

a tall tower on wheels, covered with wet hides so it could not be set on fire, men hid inside the belfry, the tower was rolled up to the castle wall, a small drawbridge was opened and men climbed onto the battlements of the castle

#### battering ram

a whole tree trunk was fitted with a metal tip and hung on chains, it was swung back and forth to ram against gates or walls

#### ballista

a giant crossbow that shot arrows 350-450 yds.

#### Catapults

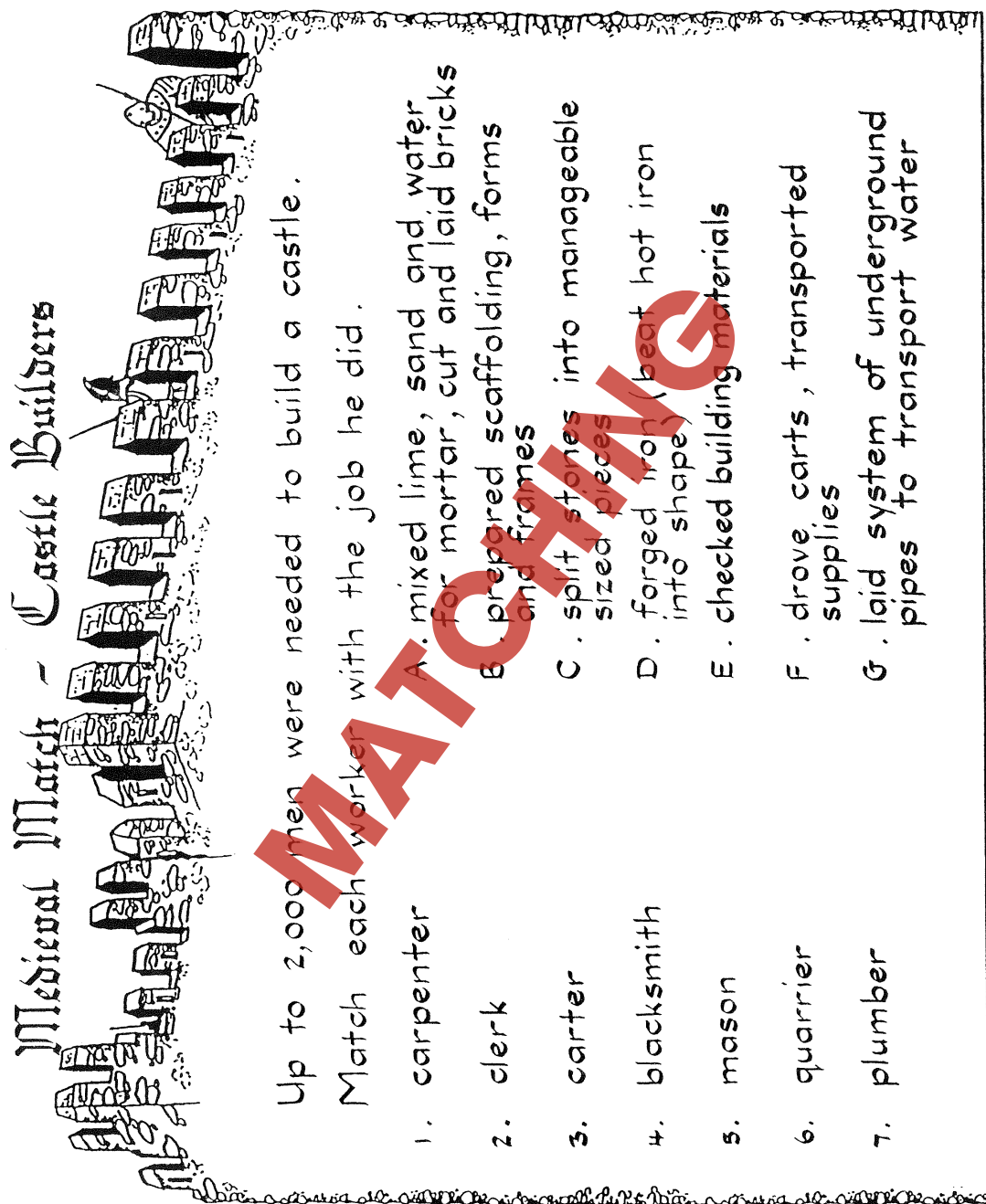
#### mangonel

a wooden beam hollowed out at one end to hold a missile

#### trebuchet

a huge see-saw with weights at one end and a sling at the other end for hurling rocks or red hot irons over the wall





Up to 2,000 men were needed to build a castle.

Match each worker with the job he did.

- |               |   |
|---------------|---|
| 1. carpenter  | A. mixed lime, sand and water for mortar, cut and laid bricks |
| 2. clerk      | B. prepared scaffolding, forms and frames                     |
| 3. carter     | C. split stones into manageable sized pieces                  |
| 4. blacksmith | D. forged iron (beat hot iron into shape)                     |
| 5. mason      | E. checked building materials                                 |
| 6. quarrier   | F. drove carts, transported supplies                          |
| 7. plumber    | G. laid system of underground pipes to transport water        |



Medieval Homonyms

Homonyms are words that sound the same. Homonyms do not have the same spelling or the same meaning.

For each pair of homonyms, circle the Medieval word.

Illustrate the word you circled.

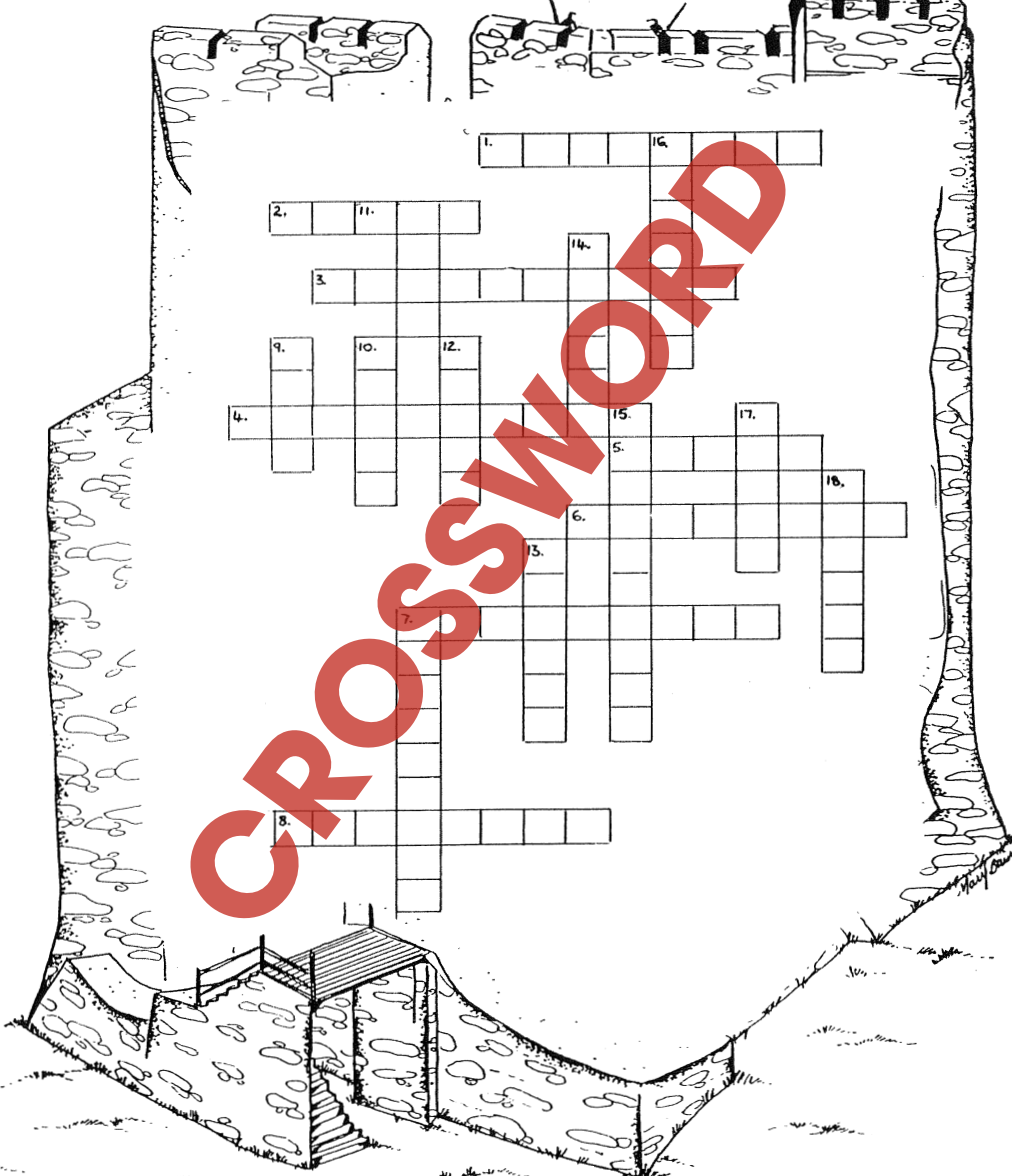
- villain - villein
- boar - bore
- knight - night
- manner - manor
- alter - altar
- serf - surf

Use 2 Medieval words in a sentence that shows their meaning.

Castle Crossword

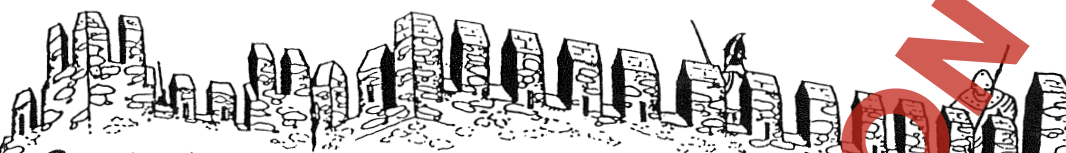
Word Watch 2

Don't become a prisoner in the castle - let your knowledge help you escape!



Word Association

Word Watch 3



Read the words in each row. Draw battlements around the word that does not belong. Try to think of another word to take its place.

- castle fortress keep chateau palace
- feast dinner banquet brunch meal
- tapestry creweling needlepoint croquet weaving
- hunterman minstrel jester juggler mummings
- archery jousting dubbing falconry javelin throws
- peasants serfs servants chaplain villein
- cobbler blacksmith mason minstrel tailor
- squire villein bishops lords nobles
- moat portcullis motte drawbridge gatehouse
- spade pickaxe shovel adze hoe