

TOP 5 ACTIVITIES

LANDSCAPE OR MAN-MADE?

ON-SITE
ACTIVITY

Recommended For

KS2 & KS3
(History, Geography)

Learning Objectives

- Identify the difference between natural and man-made defensive features of the castle.
- Consider how these features work together to create strong defences.



ACTIVITY 1

Summary

During your visit, ask students to look for these defensive features:

- The River Coquet
- Tree lines
- Steep slopes
- High ground
- Curtain wall
- Banks
- Ditches
- Towers
- Keep
- Gatehouse
- Arrow loops
- Ramparts

Students could take photos on their phones or draw the features when they find them. As they gather evidence, they could discuss and make notes about whether they are landscape features or man-made features. While on site, ask students to think about how they might beat each defensive feature and what might happen to them if they fail!

Back in the classroom, get students to sort the features they identified into two categories: 'landscape' or 'man-made', e.g. river = landscape, curtain wall = man-made. You could use the photos they have taken during the visit and do this as a visual sorting exercise. Students could then discuss the importance of each defensive feature and try to rank them in order of most to least important. What might happen to the castle if you removed one or two of them? Are there any that are absolutely central to defending the castle?

MORE LEARNING IDEAS

You could use the Google Earth function on Google Maps to give your class an aerial view of Warkworth. This should show the features of the landscape and the layout of the castle. You could also compile student photos into a class archive.