



Find out about The Priest's Houses past...



A scene from a medieval party, otherwise known as an 'ale'. These were often held in parish Church Houses.

On Sundays, everyone in the **parish** (say *pah-rish*) gets up early and makes their way up to All Saint's Church for the morning service.

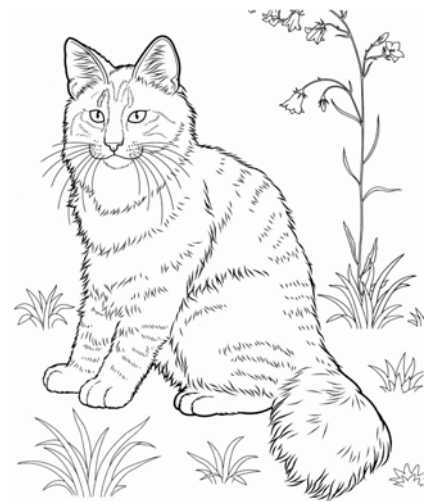
My mum, Anne, helps the Vicar out, cleaning up the church before service – she lets the parish cat, Tabs, into the church to chase out the mice. Sometimes he catches one and brings it home for me as a present, yuk! Do you have a cat or any other pets?

Mum and a group of other women from the church help to host the feasts and 'ales' in the Church House next door (that's where you are staying!) Church Houses were a bit like village halls.

My best friend Sam and I love peering in through the windows of the Church House during an 'ale' – the grown-ups all drink too much and end up singing and dancing. It's funny to watch them falling about!

Hello! Welcome to The Priest's House, my name is James and I have lived in the village of Holcombe Rogus since I was a baby. I'm 9 years old now and it's 1523.

I love living here, there are lots of children in the village and we all play together in the fields when we aren't being made to help our parents with boring chores. Do yours make you help with chores? What's your least favourite?



This is Tabs – why not have a go at colouring him in.

Facts:

A **parish** is a village or part of a larger town which has its own church and priest.

An **ale**, (say *ay-all*) as well as being another word for beer, was also a party held in a Church House to raise funds for the parish. Festivities included dancing, music and drinking. The money made went towards church repairs and feeding the poor.



Once they've had enough eating and drinking, the men come out on to the green and have wrestling matches. We children all cheer them on and make bets on who will win. I wonder what your grown-ups do for fun?



This painting was painted by a Dutch artist called Pieter Breughel (say Bryo-gal) in 1569. It's called 'Peasant Dance' and it shows a scene very like a church ales we held here at the Priest's House. Can you see: the church? The Church House with a village flag hanging from it? Old men arguing and little children dancing alongside the grown-ups? A special ale jug with three handles for sharing. What do you think about the sort of clothes we wore in my time? What's different from what you wear in your time – and what's the same? You can learn a lot about my time from pictures like these.

When the Church House isn't being used for parties, it's used for feeding the poor people from surrounding areas. I enjoy helping mum with this as it makes me feel good. My family doesn't live a rich life but at least we have a roof over our heads and food in our tummies every day. The people who come to us for help have very little, but they tell such fun stories and are ever so grateful when we help them out. Mum says that what we are doing is called 'charity work' and that God will be happy with us for it.



Do you do anything to help the people in your community? What is it that you do and how does it make you feel?

Unruly Rulers

Who were the medieval (say 'med-ee-evil') kings?

Medieval means in the Middle Ages. This is roughly from when William the Conqueror and the Normans invaded England in 1066 until Henry VIII (that's the 8th) became king in 1509.



King William II Rufus

He was killed hunting.
People say that Henry I ordered it!

1066

William the Conqueror

He wasn't even English he came from France.



1087

King Henry I

He stole the throne from his older brother who was away on Crusade.



1100

King Stephen

Another king who stole the throne, it was meant to be his cousin Matilda's!



1135

King Henry II

Some of his knights heard that he was angry at Thomas Becket, the Archbishop of Canterbury. That was the end of poor Thomas, the knights killed him.



1154

King Richard I The Lion Heart

A brave king, he was always fighting a war.



1189

King John

Bad King John, he was a cruel and horrible man. He died eating too many peaches!



1199

King Henry III

He was a good king who gave money to the poor and liked to pray.



1216

King Edward I

He invaded and conquered both Wales and Scotland ruling both of them!



1272

King Edward II

Another bad King, he only listened to his best friend Piers Gaveston and died a nasty death in a dungeon



1307

King Edward III

He was a good king, even if he did start the 100 years' war.



1327

King Richard II

He tried to rule without parliament, so the barons helped the next Henry become king.



1377

King Henry IV

He stole the throne from Richard when he was fighting in Ireland. Hard luck Richie!



1399

King Henry V

He wanted to be King of England and France. You guessed it, he started a war!



1413



1422 King Henry VI
He became king at 8 months old! He was weak and hated war. He never fought in any battles.



King Edward IV
He secretly married Elizabeth Woodville. Some say she was a witch!

1461

King Edward V
He was 10 when he became king for 86 days. Then uncle Richard put him and his brother in a tower.



1483

King Richard III

He was a bad king. People say he had his nephews murdered in the Tower of London so he could be king instead.



1483

1485 King Henry VII
He defeated bad King Richard and became the first Tudor king. Hooray!



Meet King Henry VII – who ruled when The Priest's House was built.

Hi Henry!

So when did you become king?

I became King on 30 October 1485 when I was 28.

What are you most famous for?

I beat King Richard on the battlefield at Bosworth Field and became the first of the Tudor kings.

What is your favourite thing to do?

I love to read – I'm really very smart you know!

What is the naughtiest thing you've ever done?

You don't spend 24 years on the throne by being naughty! I was a good king – I ended the English civil war!





What does The Priest's House look like?

Can you walk all the way around it?

Can you use any of these words to describe the building? Draw a circle around the ones that do.

Does The Priest's House look similar to the buildings in the area?

Castle

Pretty

Stone

Symmetrical

Square

Friendly

Tall

Industrial

Brick

Home

Elegant

Low

The Priest's House was built around 1500, that's over 500 years ago!

The name 'Priest's House' is quite misleading; the building was a church house at first. It may well have been home to a priest as some point, but probably more towards the 17th century.

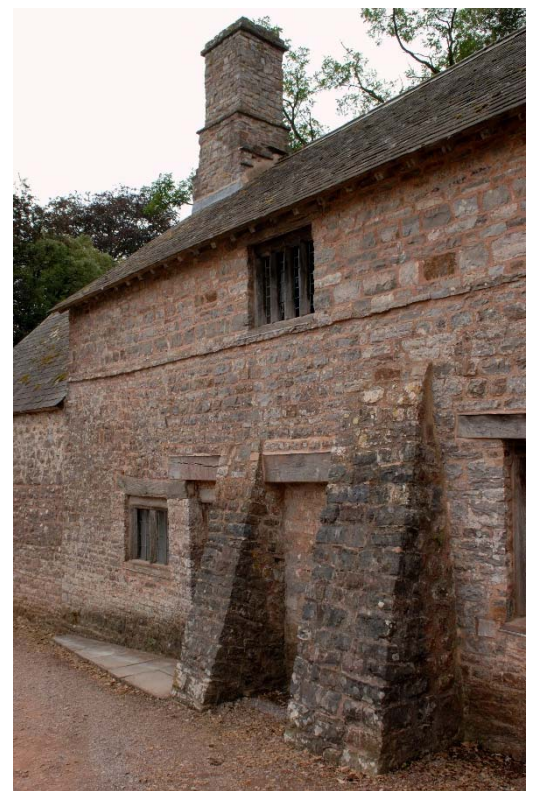
Church houses like this one survive in villages across the country and were built to serve the church community – a bit like the community centres or village halls that we have now.

Church houses are generally rectangular and have two-storeys as we see here at The Priest's House. It wouldn't have had the two fireplaces in 1500; these were added later on, perhaps to make a comfortable lodging for the priest before the vicarage was built.

Do you see the triangular shapes jutting out from the side of the building? These are called **buttresses** – nothing to do with your bottom silly! When the building was changed in the 17th century, the walls started to bend outwards; builders had to add these buttresses to support the walls and stop them from falling down. Clever eh?

Fact:

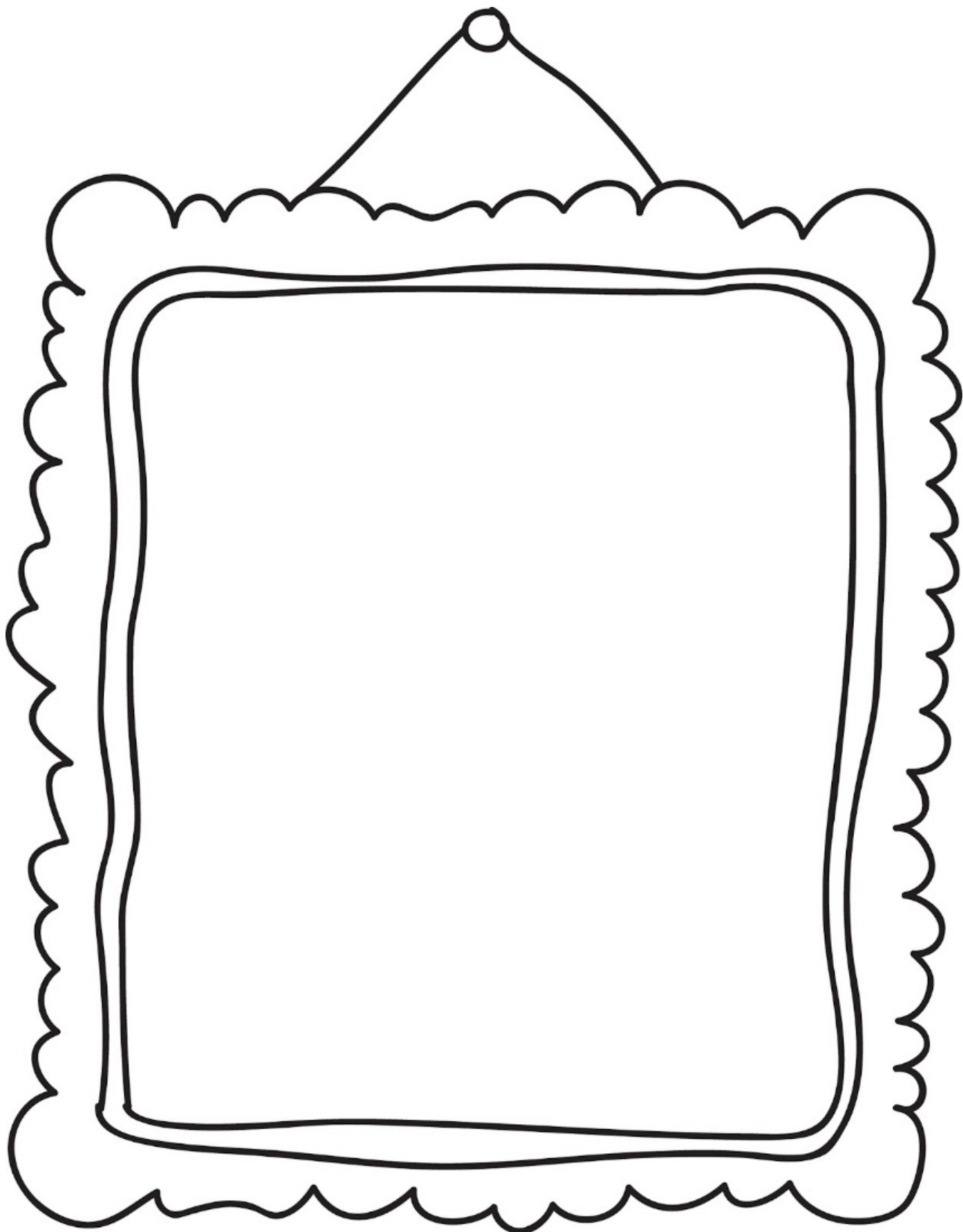
There are different types of buttresses – the ones used at The Priest's House are called diagonal buttresses. You can probably guess why.





Buildings are quite easy to draw. They are usually made up of lots of geometric shapes, like squares, triangles and circles.

Have a go at drawing your favourite side of The Priest's House in the box.





What is The Priest's House built from?

Fact:

Some buildings were built from stone that was dug out of the ground when farmers ploughed the fields, other buildings were made from stone that was dug out in a quarry and cut into neat shapes and sizes. There are still many stone quarries around the country today, where people get stone out of the ground.

Stone houses were once cheaper to build than brick ones. Once we could transport bricks up and down the country on the canals and railways, brick buildings become cheaper and more popular.

Stone is the solid foundation of the earth. It exists as huge mountains, rocks, stones or small pebbles washed smooth by water. There are lots of different types of stone, with different colours and textures. Some are better to build with than others.



In medieval and Tudor times, stone was taken out of the ground by hand. Today, a quarry is a place where stone is blasted out of the ground with explosives! The one in the picture shows what quarries look like now.



People who work with stone are called stonemasons. They build walls, carve the stone into shapes or add patterns to its surface. They use a big hammer called a mallet and special tools called chisels to shape the stone.

Mallet



Chisels





Sometimes stone masons carved faces and animals called gargoyles. You often find these in churches, up near the roof. Are there any on All Saint's church next door? Here are some examples. Have a go at designing your own gargoyle. Make it as ugly as you like!



What other building materials can you find outside and inside The Priest's House?

Circle what you can see and note down where you found them.

Stone

Glass

Wood

Plastic

Metal

Clay

Flint

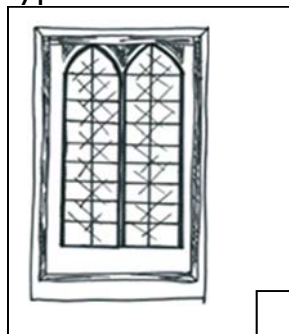
Concrete

Brick

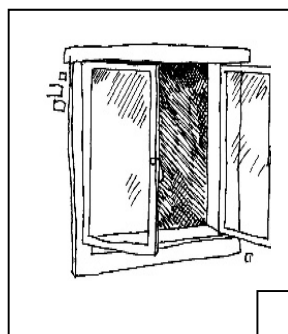
Ceramic



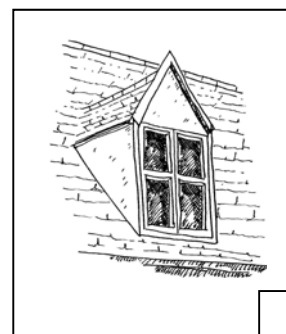
The size and shape of windows tells you a lot about the age and style of the building. What type of windows does The Priest's House have?



Fixed Picture



Casement

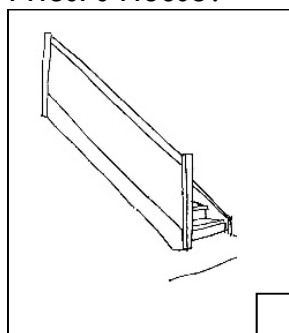


Dormer or attic

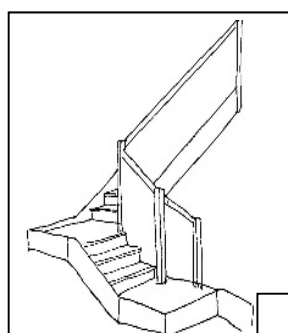
Fact:

Have you seen that in some very old buildings the windows don't open? Imagine how hot it got in the summer! When the casement window was invented it was the first type of window to open.

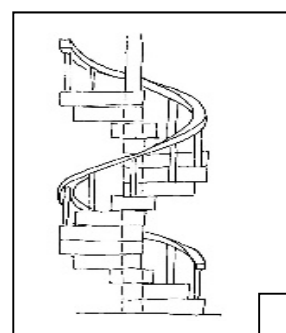
There are many different styles of staircases. Which style is closest to the staircase at The Priest's House?



Straight

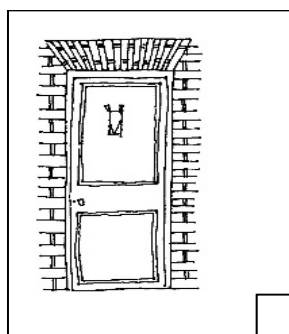


Quarter turn

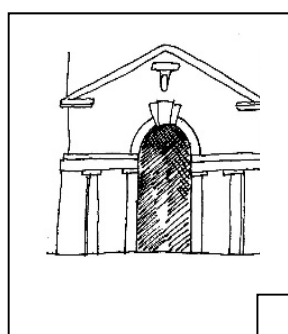


Spiral

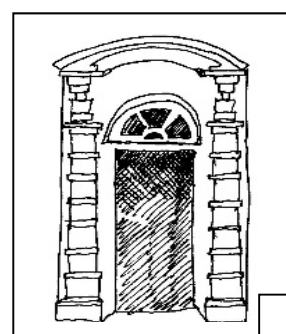
Entrances can be grand or simple. Which front door is most like the one at The Priest's House?



Door frame



Porch



Canopy

Quest



Discover more about The Priest's House

The Priest's House has seen many changes since it was first built around 1500. That's about 500 years ago! During that time, things have changed both inside and outside the building. Follow this Quest to discover more about it.

Go outside and look up at the roof. What's it made from?

Yes – that's right, it's made from slate. Did you know that slate is a **metamorphic rock**? That means it is formed under high heat and pressure under the earth's surface.



Have you found this blocked up doorway yet?

This doorway was blocked off before Landmark took on the building. The picture below shows what it looked like from the inside before any restoration work took place in 1984.



Why do you think the door may have been blocked up?

There are so many different textures at The Priest's House: old wood next to the new; shiny Hamstone flagstones on the floor, contrasting with rough and ready cobblestones in the fireplaces. Can you find any other examples where the old meets the new?

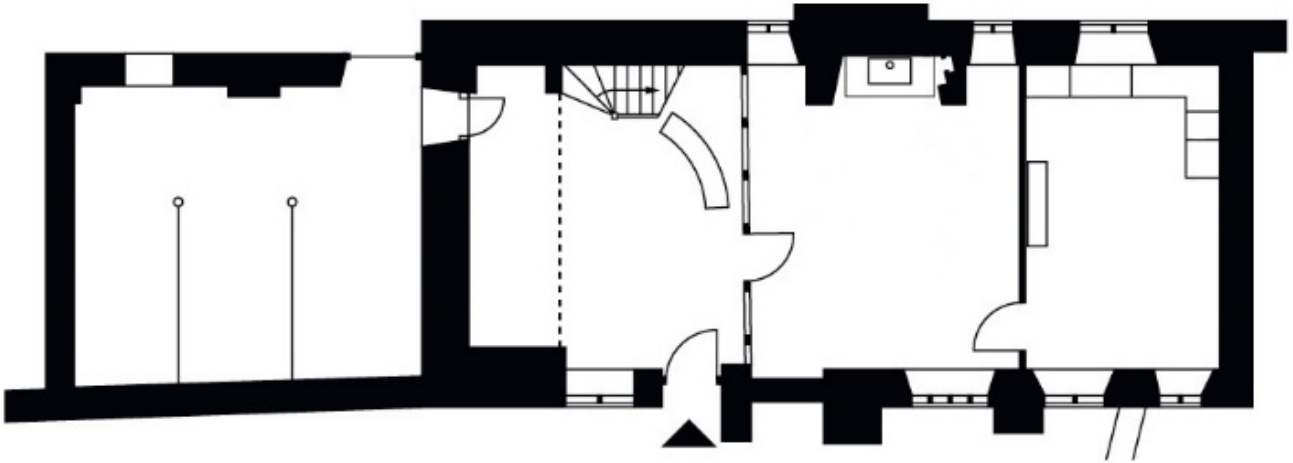




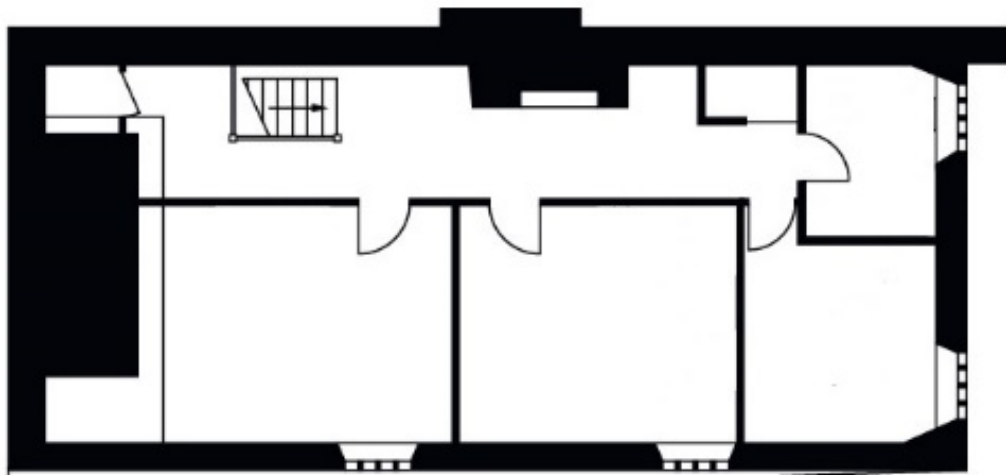
Living in The Priest's House

The floorplan of a building is a map of the rooms. The Priest's House has two floors. The plans below show you the shape of each room. Take a walk around and write on the plans what each room is used for. Mark the room you are sleeping in with a star. ★

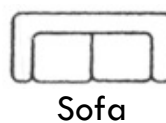
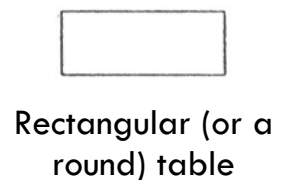
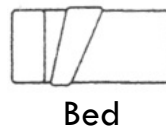
Ground Floor



First Floor



We use these symbols to show where beds, tables and bathrooms are. Add the symbols on to the floorplans to show where the furniture is.





Can you find an example of each of these things inside The Priest's House. Describe, or draw the object when you find it.

Your favourite chair

The fireplace (is it an open fire or does it have a stove?)

The pattern of a rug on the floor

In the box below, draw the view from your bedroom window. Can you see the church and church yard? Perhaps you can see Holcombe Court?

A large, empty rectangular box with a black border, intended for drawing the view from a bedroom window.



Can you answer these questions correctly?

1. What is a buttress?

A structural support

A vat for rainwater

A castle

A priest

2. What county is The Priest's House in?

Wiltshire

East Sussex

Devon

Dorset

3. What is The Priest's House made from?

Stone

Bricks

Straw

Sticks

4. Around what year was The Priest's House built?

1202

1313

1433

1500

5. What flagstones have been laid throughout the ground floor?

Hamstone flags

Cheesestone flags

Breadstone flags

Applestone flags

6. What is the name of the church next door?

St Peter's

All Saint's

St Joseph's

All Hallow's

7. What was a 'church ale'?

A book group

A party to raise funds

A prayer session

A graveyard

8. Who was on the throne when The Priest's House was built?

(Psst... Check Unruly Rulers!)

Henry VII

Elizabeth I

James II

Victoria

To find the answers skip two pages...



The Priest's House Word Search

Now have a go at the countryside word search. Think about things that would have been around when James was living in the village. The words to find are at the bottom of the page.

P P X E S C K K A O S A A S
U F E O Z E O P Y D W L C T
H Z X E K N N W A V Q E H N
Z N Y B H S Z O S C T Z A I
G D I K U S X W T J X S R A
M O N R Q T G D S S C L I S
F O O T P A T H P C G R T L
E S U O H H C R U H C A Y L
V Q Q S E A I Z E P N D L A
T E Z N T E X C Z S M L Z F
K V O Y S E Q Y H A S E M H
R T W T N O V E D J T I G R
S N S N M H B E A M S F Z Y

ALL SAINTS
ALE
CHARITY
DEVON

FOOTPATH
BUTTRESS
PRIEST
CAT

OAK
SHEEP
FIELD
COWS

STONE
BEAMS
CHURCH HOUSE
FLAGSTONES

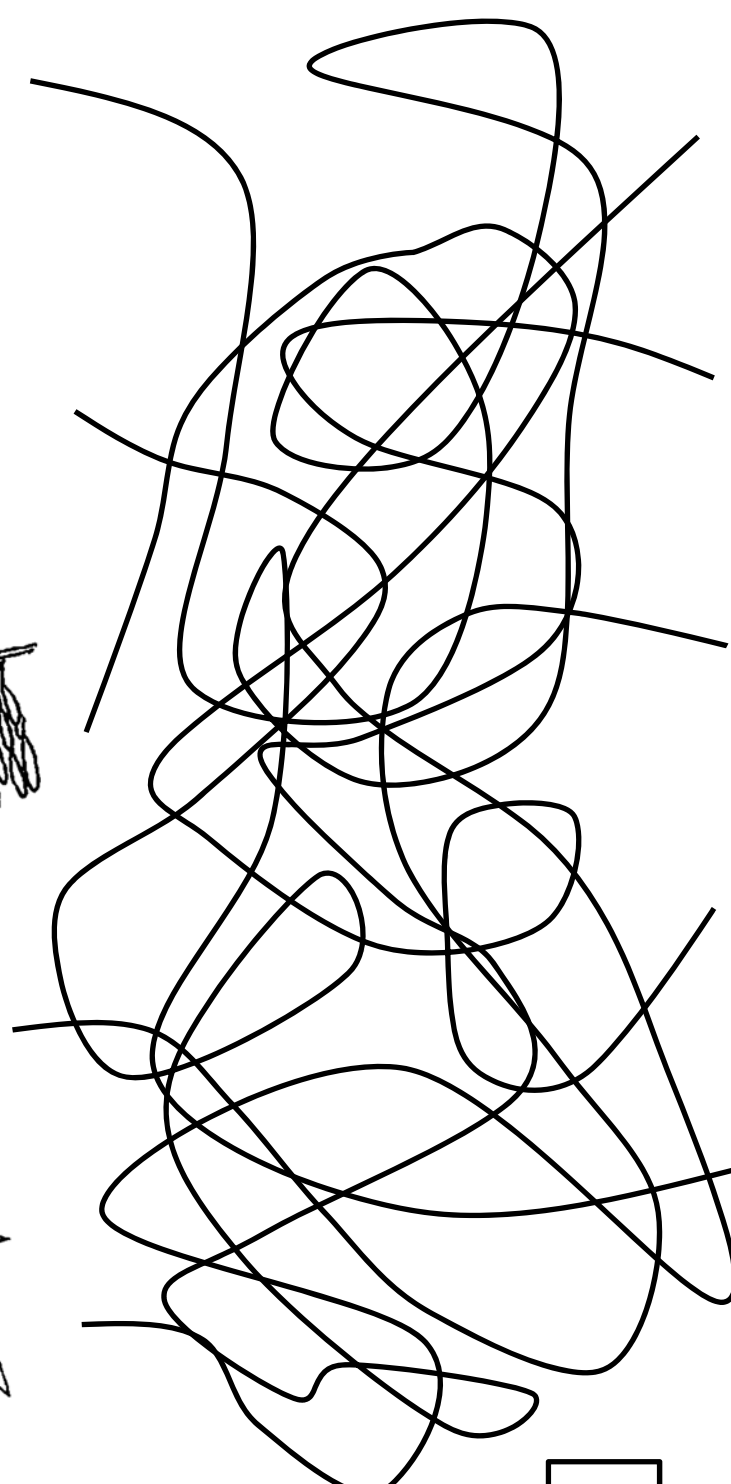
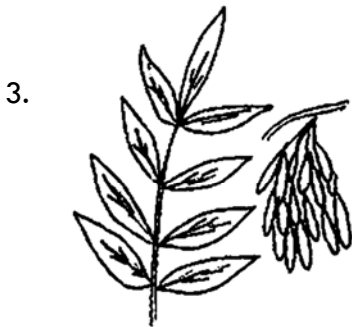
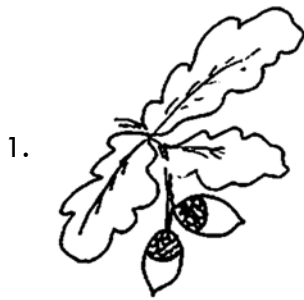
How many of these words did you find? Put your score in the box.

/
16



Which leaf belongs to which tree?

Match the leaf to the correct tree.



Horse Chestnut

Willow

Pine

Ash

Oak

Did you match them correctly? Put your score in the box.

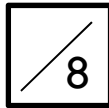


Answer sheet:

Quiz answers:

1. A structural support
2. Devon
3. Stone
4. 1500
5. Hamstone flags
6. All Saint's
7. A party to raise funds
8. Henry VII

How many did you get right?



In the space below make your own Priest's House quiz and test the adults! Remember to make it super hard!

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

7.

8.

Illuminate a letter

Most people in the medieval times couldn't read and write. Educated people like monks and priests could. Monks recorded history in big beautiful books full of pictures and illuminated say ('ill-oo-min-ay-ted') letters. Illuminated letters are when the first letter of a page or a paragraph is bigger and in colour while the rest of the text is black. Sometimes the monks made them crazy – like this person with bird's feet and a dragon's tail. Use the first letter of your name and create an illuminated letter! They loved to use colour in medieval times so make it as bright and bold as you like!





Bake a honey cake

In medieval times cakes were very simple. People either bought the ingredients in a market or grew their own. Honey was used to make things sweeter as sugar came from the Middle East (and later Europe) and was very expensive. Honey was free, wherever there were bees!

Here's a simple recipe for you to try. You might need the help of an adult.

250g clear honey, plus extra 2 tbsp to glaze	100g dark brown muscovado sugar
225g unsalted butter	3 large eggs, beaten
	300g self-raising flour

Remember to pre-heat the oven: fan 140 °C or electric 160 °C: Gas 3

- Butter a 20cm round cake tin and line it with baking paper
- Cut the butter into pieces and drop them into a medium pan with the honey and the sugar, let it melt slowly
- When the mixture looks like liquid, turn up the heat under the pan and boil for about 1 minute
- Leave to cool for 15-20 minutes (important - this stops the eggs cooking when they are mixed in!)
- Beat the eggs into the melted honey mixture using a wooden spoon
- Sift the flour into a large bowl and pour in the egg and honey mixture. Beat until you have a smooth, quite runny batter
- Pour the mixture into the cake tin and bake for 50-60 minutes. You can tell it's ready as it will be golden brown and spring back when pressed. Push a skewer into the centre of the cake and it should come out clean.
- Turn the cake out on a wire rack
- Warm 2tbsp honey in a small pan and brush over the top of the cake to give it a sticky glaze, then leave it to cool.
- If you want, serve with vanilla ice cream! This is making me feel hungry...