

# Battles That Shaped Britain's History

Teachers' Notes : Sir Francis Drake and the Spanish Armada

*Battles That Shaped Britain's History* is a terms project that looks at key battles over the last 2000 years. This week we are looking at the attempted invasion by the Spanish and the adventures of Drake.

1. Look at the time line and where this battle fits in. The Tudor period lasted from 1485 to 1603 and was a period of high adventure and exploration, not to mention literature such as Shakespeare.
2. There is an information pack of 6 pages about Drake and the Armada. These will be needed for the activities below.
3. **First Activity:** The activities pages start with a cloze passage about how Lord Howard and Drake (not to mention the weather) defeated the Spanish. Children can either just fill in the spaces or rewrite the whole passage. They need to read pages 1 and 2 of the information pages.

**Second Activity:** The second activity again is a comprehension task and requires sentence answers. They need to read pages 3-5 of the information sheets about Drake's life.

**Third Activity:** This is a research activity and requires the children to find out about a famous person from the Tudor period. There is some information about Queen Elizabeth I in the information pack.

Some internet sites worth looking at are:

[www.britanexpress.com/history/battles](http://www.britanexpress.com/history/battles)  
[www.historyonthenet.com](http://www.historyonthenet.com)  
[www.eyewitnesstohistory.com](http://www.eyewitnesstohistory.com)  
[www.history-uk.com](http://www.history-uk.com)  
[www.britishbattles.com](http://www.britishbattles.com)  
[www.bbc.co.uk/wales/celts](http://www.bbc.co.uk/wales/celts)

## Taking Notes Effectively

**What is the piece of writing about ?**

*Read the introduction and headings.*

*Look at the illustrations, charts and graphs and read the captions.*

**What are the main points or ideas ?**

*Read through carefully thinking about what the main points or ideas are.*

**Make your notes**

*In your own words, summarize the information. Do not copy information directly from the book or internet. If you include a quote that is written in the book, use quotation marks.*