

Year 4 Topic snapshot- An Adventure Through Time

Key vocabulary

Empire: a group of states or countries ruled over by a single monarch or a state.

Conquer: overcome and take control of a place or people by military force.

Invade: an armed force enter a country or region so as to occupy it.

Reign: rule as a monarch.

Heir: a person legally entitled to the property or rank of another on that person's death

Monarch: a sovereign head of state, a king, queen or emperor.

Colonise: send settlers to (a place) and establish political control over it.

Key figures

William Shakespeare is a famous British playwright who wrote many plays including *Romeo and Juliet* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Shakespeare is considered to be one of the most talented writers of all time. Shakespeare lived around the late 16th century and early 17th century, and in between the reigns of **Queen Elizabeth I** and **King James I**.

Charles Dickens was a famous English writer from the 19th century. He wrote many books, including *Oliver Twist* and *A Christmas Carol*. When Dickens was a child his family were very poor. When he became famous, only rich people could afford to buy books. Dickens published his stories in sections in cheaper magazines so poorer people could read them.

Boudicca (also known as Boudica or Boadicea) was a **Celtic Queen** who led a rebellion against the Roman occupation of Britain. Although her campaign was initially successful, her forces were defeated at the Battle of Watling Street in 61 AD. Boudicca was a member of the **Iceni tribe** who lived in Norfolk.

Key dates and time periods

Romans: The Romans came to Britain nearly 2000 years ago. Even today, the ruins of Roman buildings, forts, roads, and baths can be found all over Britain. Britain was part of the Roman Empire for almost 400 years. By the time the Roman armies left around 410 AD, they had established medical practice, a language of administration and law and had created public buildings and roads.

Tudors: The Tudors ruled England and Wales from 1485 to 1603. They ruled for 118 years and during their reign encouraged new religious ideas, overseas exploration and colonisation. Tudor England had two of the strongest monarchs ever to sit on the English throne: **Henry VIII** and his daughter **Elizabeth I**.

Victorians: The Victorians lived over 150 years ago during the reign of **Queen Victoria** (1837 to 1901). Britain built a huge empire during the Victorian period. It was also a time of change in the lives of British people. In 1837 most people lived in villages and worked on the land; by 1901, most lived in towns and worked in offices, shops and factories.

