Lesson 2: King John I and the Magna Carta!

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Teacher Knowledge: In the past, Kings of England held lots of power and did not have to consult with parliament before making decisions. During the reign of King John an important agreement was drawn up to limit the power of the monarch. The Magna Carta stated that the King must behave in a way that keeps to the laws of the land. King John did not believe that this should be the case; he believed that Kings were all powerful and answerable to no one. Eventually, the King was forced to approve the document and stamped it with his official seal on 15th June 1215. This meant that no person could be arrested without a good reason. The Magna Carta also stated that no one should be imprisoned or have his possessions taken away unless he has been brought before a judge. King John did go on to break many of the promises made in the Magna Carta, but the most important thing was that he had admitted that the king must not just do whatever he likes and that he must abide by the laws of the country. ***See page 142-143 of 'What your Year 1 Child Needs to Know'***

Knowledge Objective	Task	Lesson Detail	Vocabulary
To understand that King John made an important promise to the people of England. **Knowledge goals** King John made a promise to the people of England. King John promised not to take too much money from people. King John also promised that he would not imprison for no reason.	**Task:** To create a 'Magna Carta' **Suggested success Criteria:** I can write a sentence to promise not to take everyone's money (taxes) I can write a sentence to promise not to throw people in jail without a fair trial I can use the words: trial, tax **Step for depth** Why was the Magna Carta such an important document?	**Prior Learning:** Have you ever heard of King John I? What sort of King was he? Do you know what the Magna Carta is? Look at the Knowledge Organiser and point out King John I **Vocabulary:** Introduce the key vocabulary and recap words the children are familiar with **Teach:** - Tell story of **King John** with a child dressed in a cloak and a crown. Explain to children that lots of historians believe he was mean and nasty, he took lots of money from people (taxes) and would throw them into prison, without a fair trial, even if they had only made a small mistake. Introduce the **Barons**- dress some children in different coloured cloaks- they try to tell King John to stop. Eventually, when presented with the **Magna Carta**, he agrees. **Talk task:** *Why were the Barons angry with King John? Can you explain what the Barons persuaded King John to do? What promises were made in the Magna Carta?* **Task:** Children can write their own version of the promises King John made- not to take too much money from them (taxes) and not to put people in prison without a fair trial. Give children 'scroll' templates to record the promises. If children are unable to write in sentences, children could draw, label and verbally explain what the Magna Carta made King John agree to. **Partner teach/ plenary:** Display a picture of King John and ask children to tell you everything they know about him. Record their answers as a record of learning. Explain that the Magna Carta was very important because it told the King off and made him listen to his people.	prison trial tax power rule King John Barons Magna Carta
Suggested resources: scroll to create their own Magna Carta			

Year 1
Spring 2
Lesson 2

King John
John I and the Magna Carta



Prior Learning

Have you ever heard of King John I?

What sort of king was he?



Have you ever heard of the Magna Carta?



What might it be?

Our Knowledge Organiser

Knowledge Organiser- Kings, Queens and Leaders (History Year One)

Key Vocabulary	Definition
Throne	A special chair for a king or queen, or another very important person
Sceptre	An ornamented (decorated) rod carried by rulers on special occasions
Majesty	A royal person
Reign	The time/ period that a person is in charge and rules over the country
Barons	An important person who has land
The Magna Carta	A written agreement (charter) that was sealed by King John
Civil war	A war between people who live in the same country
Coronation	When a king or queen is given the crown











King John signed the Magna Carta in 1216

Simon de Montfort captured Henry III and set up a parliament

Charles I was executed in 1649

Oliver Cromwell was the Lord Protector

Charles II returned from hiding in France to be the king in 1660

Key Vocabulary

- Prison
- Trial
- Tax
- Power
- Rule
- King John
- Barons
- Magna Carta

L.O: To understand that King John made an important promise to the people of England.



Success Criteria:

- I can write a sentence to promise not to take everyone's money (taxes)
- I can write a sentence to promise not to throw people in jail without a fair trial.
- I can use and understand the words; trial, tax.

Here are today's key words:

prison

rule

trial

King John

tax

Barons

power

Magna Carta

The pyramid shows the hierarchy. Please discuss with your child.

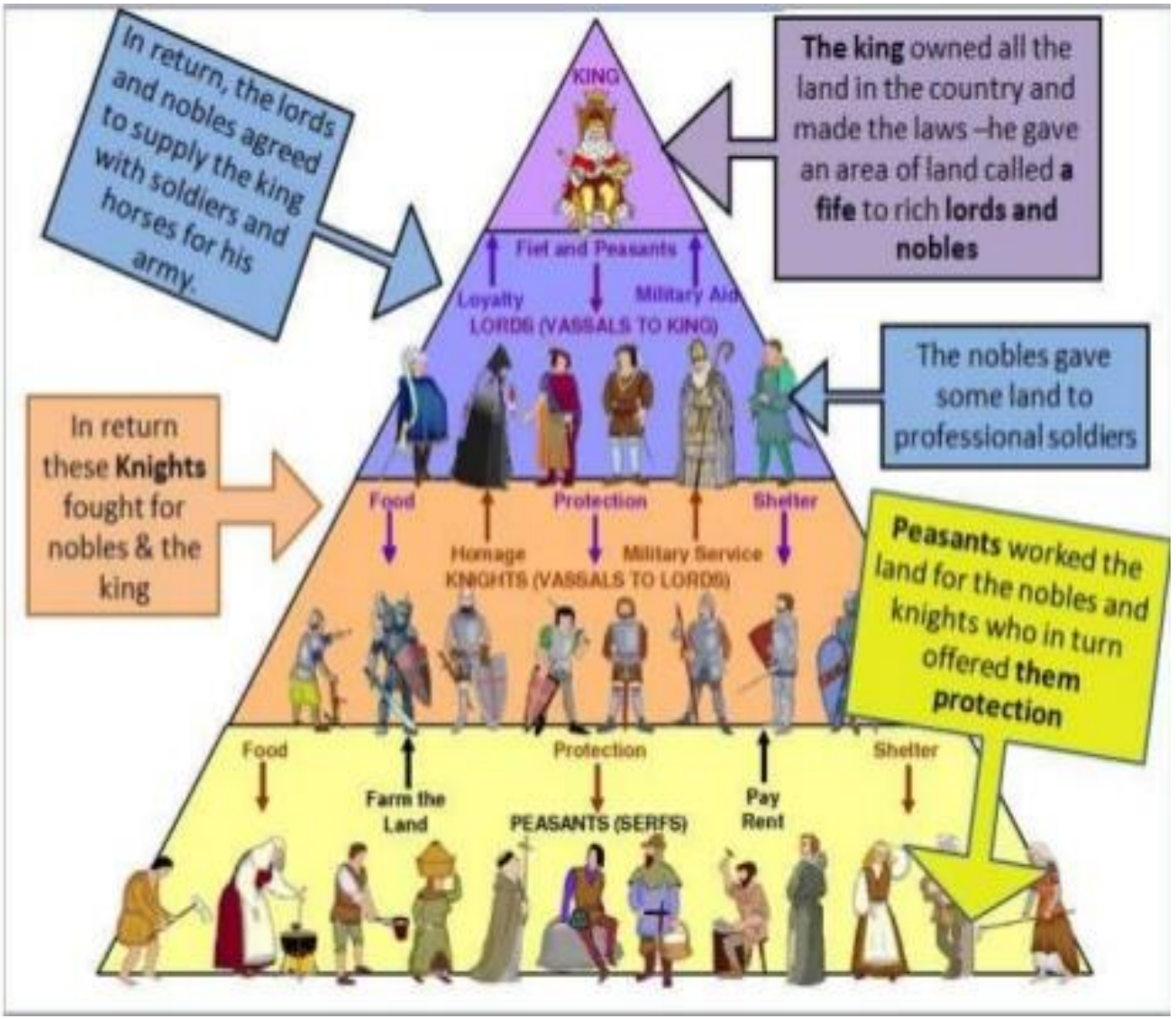
Feudal Society

-King

-Nobles & Lords

-Knights

-Peasants/ Serfs



Task 1

Using the sheet or by drawing your own, create your own pyramid to show the Feudal Society.

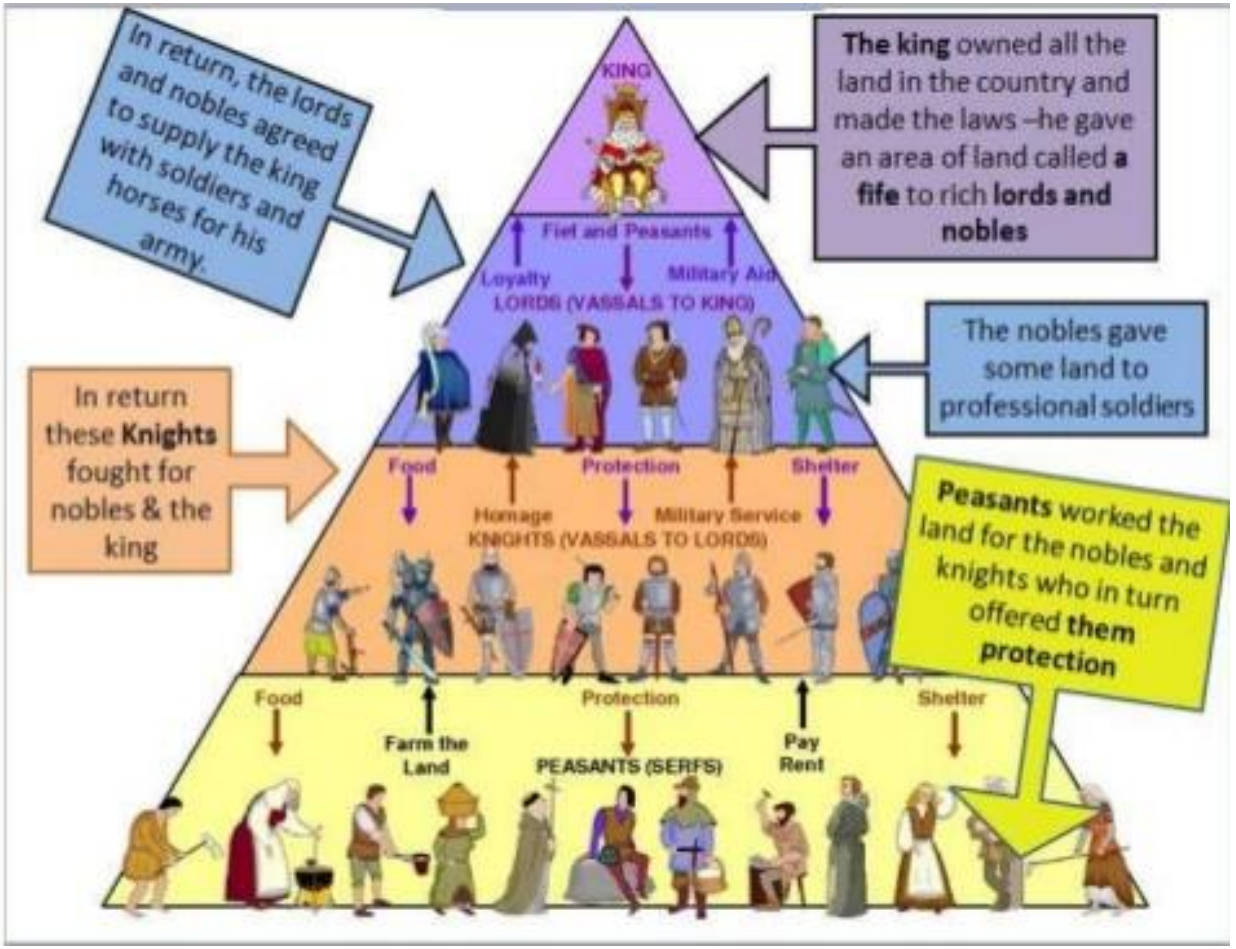
Feudal Society

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Teach

Today we are going to focus on the story of King John I.

He was a mean and nasty King, he took lots of money of people (taxes) and would throw people into jail without a fair trial – even for a small mistake.

Eventually his Barons captured him and made him stop. They got him to sign an important document – the Magna Carta. He made promises to the people of his country.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9zT4hkAxzLg

Talk Task

Discuss....



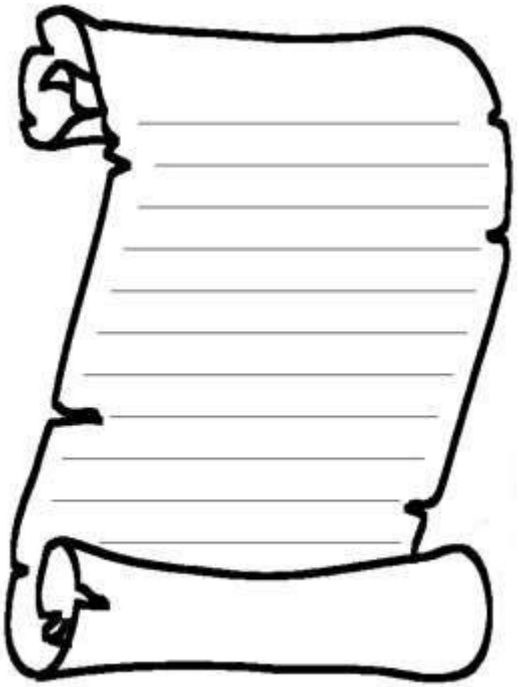
Why were the Barons angry with king John?

What did the Barons persuade King John to do?

What promises were made in the Magna Carta?

Task 2

With a grown up think about your own Magna Carta. If you were in charge what rules would you give people?



Think about:

- Taxes
- Prison
- Trials

I promise to……

Remember…

The Magna Carta was very important because it made the King follow the laws of the land! We all must follow the laws of the land.

