

# Macbeth

Shakespeare



# Characters:



This week, we are continuing our new learning journey, all about Shakespeare's *Macbeth*. Last weeks work, you were introduced to the characters, narratives and themes. If you included the following characters in your work then you were right!

Macbeth

Lady Macbeth

King Duncan

Malcolm

Donalbain

Banquo

Fleance

Hecate

Macduff

Macduff's Son

Murderer's

Ross

Lady Macduff

Three Weird Sisters

Young Siward

Lennox

The Porter

# Significant Moments:



If you included similar significant moments to these then you were right!

- Macbeth leads the Scottish Army into battle against Norway
- Macbeth meets the witches (The weird sisters)
- Lady Macbeth persuades Macbeth to kill King Duncan
- Macbeth kills King Duncan and Lady Macbeth helps
- Macbeth orders Banquo's and Fleance (who escaped) murder
- Macbeth see's Banquo's ghost at the banquet/party
- Macbeth visits the witches again
- Macbeth orders Macduff's murder but slaughters his whole family. Macduff has gone to England to find Malcolm.
- Macduff persuades Malcolm to get an army together.
- The army come to attack and Macbeth dies. Macduff kills him.

# Witchcraft and Superstition Task:



Today we are going to:

- Explore the belief in witchcraft and superstition in Jacobean England (1567-1625).

What is a superstition?

Question 1: List as many as you can think of (the pictures might help you). Write your answers on a piece of paper.



# Witchcraft and Superstition Answer:



Today we are going to:

- Explore the belief in witchcraft and superstition in Jacobean England (1567-1625).

Superstition is:

A superstition is any belief or practice considered by non-practitioners to be irrational or supernatural, attributed to fate or magic, perceived supernatural influence, or fear of that which is unknown.



## Some Jacobean Superstitions:



- Saying "God Bless You" following a sneeze - Elizabethans believed that the devil could enter your body when you opened your mouth to sneeze - the blessing warded off the Devil
- It was unlucky for a black cat to cross your path ( Black is the colour associated with evil magic and a cat was strongly associated with a witch's familiar)
- Not to walk under ladders - considered bad luck as ladders are associated with the gallows and executions
- Shoes on a table - If you put shoes on a table it was very bad luck - inviting an imminent death

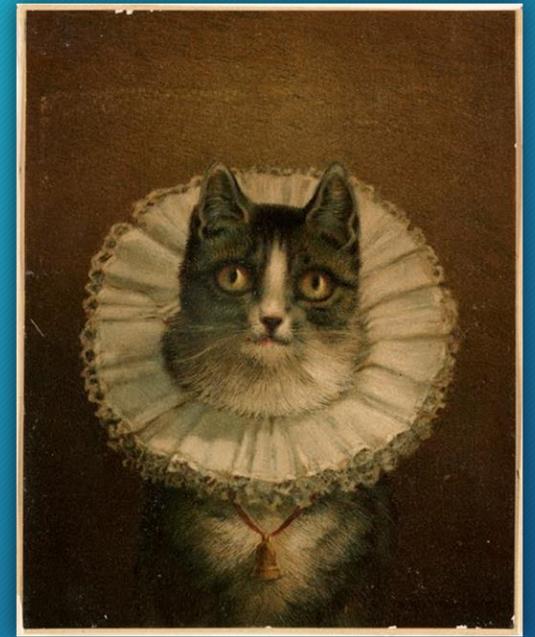
## Question 2: Are you superstitious?

If yes, list how you are superstitious

If no, do you know anyone that is? Can you list how they are superstitious

[Click on the video and watch:](#)

[myShakespeare | Macbeth Context:  
Witchcraft in Shakespeare's Time - YouTube](#)



## Question 3: Jacobean thoughts on Witches

Here is some art work created in the Jacobean period about “Witches”



Q3: What is she making?

## Question 4: Jacobean thoughts on Witches

Here is some art work created in the Jacobean period about “Witches”



Q4: Who are they giving gifts to?

## Question 5: Jacobean thoughts on Witches

Here is some art work created in the Jacobean period about “Witches”



Q5: What do they look like, describe their characteristics?

## Question 6: Jacobean thoughts on Witches

Here is some art work created in the Jacobean period about “Witches”



Q6: Who are her companions?

## Question 7: Jacobean thoughts on Witches

Here is some art work created in the Jacobean period about “Witches”



Q7: What are they doing?

Question 8:  
This is how the Jacobeans dealt  
with witches

Here is some art work created in the Jacobean period about “Witches”



Q8: Look at the picture and describe what happened to the women, who were accused of being a witch.

## Question 9: This is how the Jacobeans dealt with witches



Shakespeare's life overlapped with the Jacobean Era (1603-1625).

Macbeth cannot be precisely dated, but the play features many compliments to King James VI/I suggesting the original writing is Jacobean rather than Elizabethan.

Q9: How do you think this era influenced Shakespeare's writing in Macbeth?

