

Why do we have a monarchy?

What you already know

You will already know about your own family- this will help you understand family trees and heirs
You will already know about parliament from when you looked at Guy Fawkes
You will already know about some monarchs who ruled during historical events you have already studied including Guy Fawkes and The Great Fire of London.

Key vocabulary

Monarch

A monarch is a king or queen, an emperor or a sultan.

Parliament

This is where politicians meet to decide laws.

Succession

This is the order in which a monarch's family will take over the throne.

Era

A period of time

What you will know why the end of this topic

You will know what monarchy is and understand what parliament is and how they rule in tandem. You will understand changes during different monarch reigns, for example, industrial revolution under Queen Elizabeth I and development of arts and music under Queen Victoria. You will know monarchs in your living memory including Queen Elizabeth II and the coronation of King Charles III. You will know that the monarchy's power over the population has decreased over time. You will understand the idea of 'era' and that some eras in time were named after monarchs, for example, Victorians, Elizabethans. You will also understand that there are heirs to the throne and traditionally this is the first born.

Facts

Why was William I known as William the Conqueror?

William I came from France. He killed King Harold in 1066 and took over England, becoming known as 'William the Conqueror'.

What is Henry VIII known for?

Henry was desperate for a son, so when his wife Katherine of Aragon gave birth to a baby girl, he divorced her. In doing so, he split England from the Catholic Church and created the Church of England. Henry had a total of six wives. He divorced two and beheaded two!

Who is the longest reigning monarch?

In 2015, Queen Elizabeth II became the longest reigning monarch with 65 years on the throne. Before this, Queen Victoria had been the longest reigning monarch.

Who was Elizabeth I?

Elizabeth I was the daughter of Henry VIII. She never married, although she said she was married to her country.



Henry VIII
Reigned 1509-1547



Queen Elizabeth I
Reigned 1558-1603



Queen Victoria I
Reigned 1837-1901



Queen Elizabeth II
Reigned 1952-2022

Who Is King Charles III?

Full name: Charles Philip Arthur George

Full title: Charles the Third, by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and of His other Realms and Territories King, Defender of the Faith.

Date of birth: 14th November 1948

Date of accession: 8th September 2022 (formally declared 10th September 2022)

He was the first child of Princess Elizabeth, (later Queen Elizabeth II) and the first grandchild of King George VI.

