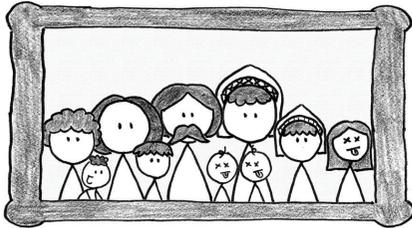


# Anne Hathaway's Cottage

## Pupil's Booklet

### Questions



The Shakespeare family: William with his parents, brothers and sisters.



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Find out what life would have been like for the people who lived in this house.

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## The Parlour

**Amazing Fact! – Men, women and children in Tudor England drank beer, wine, sherry (or sack), mead and cider. People hardly ever drank water because the water in rivers and streams was often contaminated and could not be used unless it had been boiled.**

The slatted frame that is attached to the ceiling in front of the fire was used to store cold cooked meat. Why do you think the Tudors kept their meat in something like this?

Why was a lot of furniture in Tudor times made from oak?

It is not known for certain why Tudor settles had such high backs. What possible reasons do you think there could be? (There must be a good reason because the higher the back, the more wood would be needed so the more it would cost.)

On the dresser there is a wooden trencher (a type of Tudor plate). What do you think the small dip in the corner would be used for?

## The Kitchen

**Amazing Fact! – The stone floor that you are standing on is the same one that William and Anne walked on when William came to visit her!**

Why is there a small wooden door to the left of the fireplace? Why was it needed?

Why does the pan hanging on the right side of the fireplace have such a long handle?

In the fireplace there is a spit. What would it have been used for and how did it work?

Crouch down carefully in front of the fireplace and look up the chimney. What is the black substance on the side of the chimney and where do you think it came from? *Be careful when you stand up again*

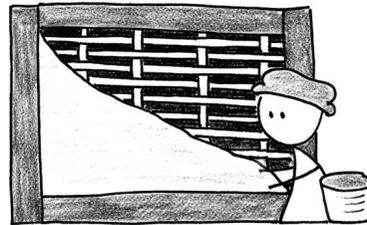


People used to eat with a spoon and a knife but not a fork

**Amazing Fact!** – Beds were very expensive pieces of furniture (a teacher’s salary was about £20 per year and a bed would cost £8-10). If you could afford one, you put your ‘best bed’ (that would be used for guests) in the parlour of your home. This would show all of your friends and neighbours that you were wealthy enough to afford a bed for your guests as well as for your family. Beds were often passed down in families in the will.

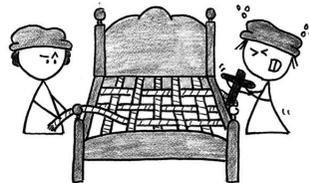
## Wattle and Daub panel

Look at the swirl marks in the daub. It is thought that these are the finger marks of the builders. Why do you think they might have used their hands instead of tools to put the daub into the frame?



## Bedchamber (over the Parlour)

Tudor bed frames had a rope base and these ropes had to be tightened regularly to stop them sagging. A rope key was used to do this but how many people do you think it took to do the job?



Pull it tighter!

## Bedchamber

The Hathaway Bed – why did beds of this type often have a wood or fabric canopy at the top?

Look for the candleholder on the table. Why do you think it is designed in that way?

**Amazing Fact!** – It was **VERY** unusual in Tudor times to have a bedroom to yourself! You would share a room (and sometimes a bed) with other members of your family and servants (if you had any).

## Bedchamber

On the bed is an old style hot water bottle (except it did not have water in it!). What might the family have put in it to get the heat and how did it warm the bed?

## The Cold Store / Storeroom (now a Washing Room)

Can you see an old linen press? What job is it doing and how did it work? Which object do we have at home that would do the same job today?

## The Dairy / Buttery

Find the yoke hanging on the wall. What do you think this would have been used for?

Look for the barrel standing in a frame. What job do you think this was used for and can you find anything else in the room that might have done the same thing?