

Geoffrey Chaucer's The Canterbury Tales

(A Workshop for KS2 Students)

Introduction

The Chaucer Heritage Trust was founded in 1992 and aims to further interest, understanding and appreciation of the works of Geoffrey Chaucer, his life and times and influence. This year the Trust is holding The Canterbury Tales Writing Competition for school students around the country. To complement the competition the trust is organising free workshops for schools.

Structure and Activities

Workshops last one hour. Students will be introduced to the author Geoffrey Chaucer and his most famous work The Canterbury Tales. Students will learn about structure of The Canterbury Tales and discuss whether they think it is a poem. They will be encouraged to think about the characters and what they say about medieval society. Students will learn about medieval pilgrimage and why it was important. Students will then work in pairs, or small groups, to complete work sheets consisting of exercises, puzzles and drawings. These can be presented to the group and later displayed. Finally, students will be introduced to the competition and have the opportunity to discuss their initial ideas for their entries.

Outcomes will include

- Students will practise working in small groups to solve problems
- Students will practise presentation skills
- Students will learn about poetry and explore what makes a poem
- Students will learn about Geoffrey Chaucer and the medieval world in which he lived
- Students will learn about medieval pilgrimage and why it was important
- Students will be encouraged to think about where words come from

For further information please contact Charles Farris at: farrisc@chaucer.org.uk

