



Burghley and the Tudors

What is Burghley House?

Burghley House was built during the Tudor period when Elizabeth I was Queen of England. It is known as an Elizabethan Prodigy House. Burghley House was built by William Cecil who was one of the Queen's most trusted advisers, she made him her Lord High Treasurer.

Queen Elizabeth I



William Cecil, Lord Burghley



Who is William Cecil?

William came from the market town of Bourne in Lincolnshire but spent most of his time in London working in the Royal Court. As he became more important, he also became wealthier and in 1555 he designed a new house near his birthplace which he called Burghley.



England's First Chief Spymaster!

The Queen had many enemies, but William made sure she stayed safe by becoming her first SPYMASTER!

William made sure that Mary, Queen of Scots was put in a prison close to Burghley and was therefore never allowed to challenge Elizabeth to become the Queen of England.



FUN BURGHLEY HOUSE FACTS

Burghley House took 32 years to build

The House has 76 chimneys in total

The roof of Burghley House spans nearly an acre

The family still live in the House

Burghley House is nearly 500 years old

Burghley House has over 100 rooms

Burghley Challenge:

- How long did Queen Elizabeth I reign?
- Did the Queen ever visit Burghley House?
- What is a 'Prodigy House'?
- Where did Burghley House get its name?
- What else can you find out about William Cecil?