



# Feudal System Class Activity

## LEARN WHILE YOU DO

# FEUDAL STRUCTURE

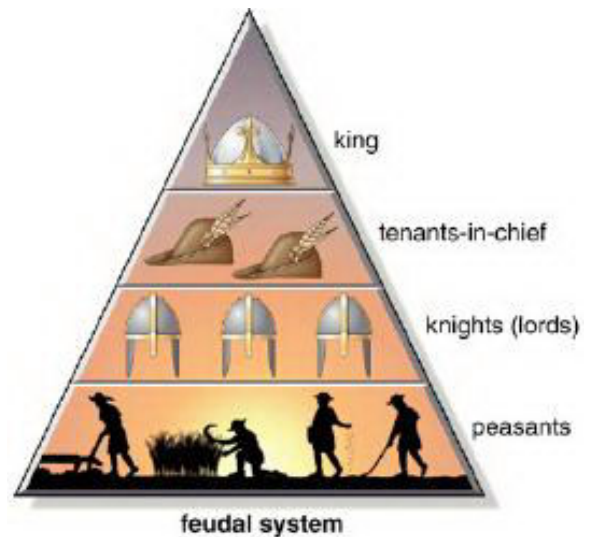
THIS IS A WHOLE CLASS ACTIVITY  
WHERE STUDENTS CREATE THE  
FEUDAL SOCIAL STRUCTURE IN CLASS  
AND LEARN THROUGH THE  
EXPERIENCE THE WAY THE FEUDAL  
SYSTEM WORKED.

# The Social Structure in the Feudal System

This is a whole class activity designed to show how the Medieval Feudal Structure of society worked.

It is based on a class of 22 students. If your class size is different simply increase or decrease the number of PEASANTS in the activity.

(If your numbers vary greatly from 22 you may also need to increase or decrease numbers of KNIGHTS. The diagram below will help you know how to reduce or increase numbers.)



The activity requires 60 wrapped lollies. If you do not wish to use lollies use small stones, beans...anything really, but let me assure you the impact is best when there are lollies or something the students WANT.

Remind everyone they are not allowed to eat their lollies until the end of the activity.

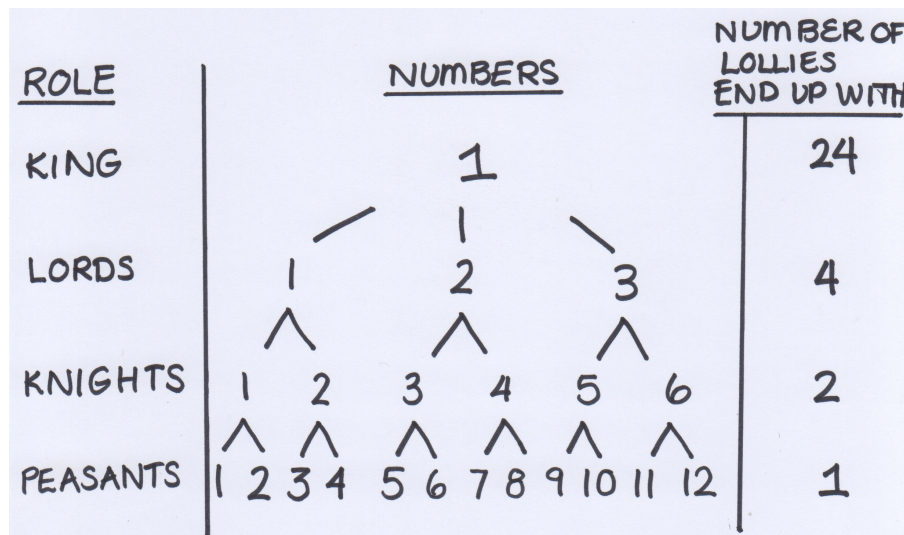
Follow the steps below:

1. Ask for 12 volunteers
2. Have them stand in a line at the front of the room and give them 5 lollies each.
3. Tell these 12 that they are PEASANTS. They work on the land (not owned by them). They have to pay taxes and give up their produce to have the opportunity to work the land.
4. Tell them they can keep 1 lolly but must each give up 4 lollies.
5. Next ask for 6 more volunteers to come up to the front.
6. These are the people that own the land the tenants work on. They are called SUB TENANTS and are generally KNIGHTS. They have been granted the lands from their LORDS.
7. Each one of these 6 takes 4 lollies from 2 peasants each.
8. These 6 should have 8 lollies each.
9. They cant keep all their lollies however, as they have to pay taxes to the LORDS. They must guard and protect the LORD'S lands and fight in the KING'S wars.
10. They can keep 2 lollies each but must give up 6 lollies.



11. Next ask for 3 volunteers
12. These are the LORDS.
13. Each LORD is to take 6 lollies from 2 KNIGHTS each, so having 12 lollies.
14. Then tell them they cannot keep all 12 though, as they owe the KING. The KING gave them their land, so they must provide the Monarch with money, advice, and knights to fight wars.
15. They can keep 4 lollies but must give up 8 each.
16. Next have the last student come up.
17. This student is the KING.
18. He receives the 8 lollies from each of the 3 LORDS.
19. He will end up with 24 lollies....that is one single man with 24 lollies!

The following diagram is how the distribution should end up.  
 You should have one very Happy King at the end of this exercise and a classroom full or others who feel a little hard done by.  
 This is a great way to start learning about the Medieval times and the structure of Society at that time.



Please visit my Teacherspayteachers store for a collection of other sources to help you in your social studies classes, including a number of all-inclusive units on Medieval History.

<http://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Store/Daphney-Adams-7280>

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 Students learn by DOING!