

Who is Queen Elizabeth II?

Elizabeth was born on 21st April 1926 as Princess Elizabeth.



She was the first child of The Duke and Duchess of York. The Duke of York later became King George VI.

She was born in Mayfair, an area of London.

Princess Elizabeth was taught at home, not at school.

She learned art and music and enjoyed drama and swimming.

When she was 11, she joined the Girl Guides.

Did You Know...?

The Queen has two birthdays! Her actual birthday is the 21st of April but, in the UK, the Queen's birthday is celebrated on the second Saturday in June each year.



Royal Wedding

Princess Elizabeth married Philip Mountbatten, Duke of Edinburgh, on 20th November 1947 in Westminster Abbey.

She was 21 years old when they got married.

They received 2500 wedding gifts from around the world!



"Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II Couronnement de la Reine Elizabeth II"
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Coronation

In 1952, when she was 25, Princess Elizabeth's father King George VI died.

Princess Elizabeth was in Kenya when she heard the sad news. She came home straight away and it was decided that she would become The Queen.

She became Queen on 6th February 1952 and was crowned on 2nd June 1953.



The Royal Family

*Please note: although Andrew is a notable member of the Royal Family as one of The Queen's children, we would advise against allowing your class to freely research more about his life, as he is a controversial figure who has been accused of behaviour that you may not find appropriate to discuss with children.

Queen Elizabeth II and Philip, the Duke of Edinburgh, have four children:



In 1948, The Queen's first child, Prince Charles, was born – Prince of Wales.

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In 1950, Princess Anne was born – Princess Royal.

"Princess Anne October 2015" by Chatham House is licensed under CC BY 2.0



In 1960, Prince Andrew was born – Duke of York.

"The Duke of York in Belfast (cropped)" by Titanic Belfast is licensed under CC BY 2.0



In 1964, Prince Edward was born – Earl of Wessex.

"Prince Edward August 2014" by See Li from London UK is licensed under CC BY 2.0

Queen Elizabeth II and Philip, Duke of Edinburgh have several grandchildren, including:



Prince William of Wales



Prince Harry, Duke of Sussex

"Prince Harry in the US 2013" by Glyn Lowe is licensed under CC BY 2.0

Did You Know...?

Queen Elizabeth II has some great-grandchildren too. You may have heard of Prince George, Princess Charlotte and Prince Louis who are the children of Prince William and Catherine, Duke and Duchess of Cambridge.

The Role of The Queen

The Queen helps to look after many countries around the world.

A picture of The Queen is always seen on British money, such as coins and notes.

The Queen is also shown on British stamps and sometimes her picture is used on stamps around the world.

Did You Know...?

In 2016, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II celebrated her 90th birthday! She is the first Queen to become 90.



The National Anthem

'God Save the King' was a patriotic song first performed in London in 1745. Today, it is known as the National Anthem.

God save our gracious Queen!
Long live our noble Queen!
God save the Queen!
Send her victorious,
Happy and glorious,
Long to reign over us,
God save the Queen.

The Queen's Jubilees

A jubilee is a special celebration of an event.

In 2002, The Queen celebrated her Golden Jubilee - 50 years of being Queen. There were lots of celebrations.

In 2012, The Queen celebrated her Diamond Jubilee. She had been Queen for 60 years. People held parties to celebrate.

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee is in 2022 and celebrates 70 years of her being The Queen.



Did You Know...?

Queen Elizabeth II is the United Kingdom's longest-reigning monarch. This means that she has been The Queen for a longer time than any other queen or king.

Where Does The Queen Live?

Her Majesty's official residence in London is Buckingham Palace.



The Royal Family often spend Christmas in Balmoral Castle in Scotland.

The Queen also spends lots of time at Windsor Castle.

