

The Dissolution of the monasteries in Tudor Nottinghamshire
A seven-week scheme of work for key stage 2 and 3 history

Lesson 1 – When was the Dissolution of the monasteries? (Page 1 of 2)

Objectives The children will learn:

where the Tudor period and the reign of Henry VIII occurs in English history.

important dates to do with the Dissolution.

how to find and present information using ICT.

Resources

'English History Timelines' sheet on OHT or computer screen;

A 'Dissolution of the monasteries timeline' for individuals or pairs if the activity is not being done using the Microsoft Word version on the computer; (The timelines will be needed for reference in following lessons.)

A completed 'Dissolution of the monasteries timeline' for teacher use;

Website timeline address written on the board (Only the first two pages are needed):

<http://www.channel4.com/history/microsites/H/history/guide16/part01.html> (Accessed 18/7/05);

Printed copies of the timeline 'The reign of Henry VIII' from the lesson 1 resources in this pack;

The 'England's monasteries – 1066 to the Dissolution' section will be useful for answering children's questions about items on the timeline.

Teaching activities

Introduction

Discuss the timeline on the left of the 'English history timelines' sheet. (There are black and white and coloured in versions provided.) Tell the children this timeline shows the periods of English history from when the Romans first landed to the end of the 20th century.

Ask questions to focus on the vocabulary of passing time. For example: Which period came before/after the Tudors? When did the Tudor period start/finish? How long was it? Which millennium was it in?

Tell the children that the timeline on the right shows one part of the Tudor period enlarged, the reign of Henry VIII. Inside this period only one important event is shown, 'The Dissolution of the monasteries'. Ask, for example: How many centuries ago did the Dissolution take place? Which century did it happen in? How many decades, years and months ago did it start/finish? How many years had Henry VIII been king before the Dissolution started? How long did the Dissolution last?

Main activity – Individual / pair work

Tell the children they are going to find out what happened on important dates to do with the Dissolution of the monasteries, before it started as well as when it was happening.

Differentiation

Groups 1 and 2 - Complete a 'Dissolution of the monasteries timeline' by cutting and pasting information from the first two pages of the Channel 4 website into the text boxes on their timeline. To do this the children will need to use the timeline on [page 12](#). You can copy this into a new "Word" document for them to use.

When the children cannot fill any more of their timeline using the Channel 4 site, they can use a copy of the timeline 'The reign of Henry VIII' on paper. They can use this to complete their timeline by typing information directly into the text boxes on screen.

Group 3 – Using a copy of the timeline 'The reign of Henry VIII' on paper, with key words underlined in advance if necessary, the children type information into the 'Dissolution of the monasteries timeline' text boxes on screen.

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Using ICT in this lesson

ICT is an integral part of this lesson. However all the resources can be printed out to make this a non-ICT lesson if required.

Extension activity

Use a general search engine to find out what a monastery is, who lives there and what they spend most of their time doing. Find out what the Dissolution of the monasteries was.

Key vocabulary

timeline, period, Tudor, before, after, start, finish, how long, millennium, Henry VIII, how many, centuries, century, decades, years, months, Dissolution of the monasteries, dates, website, search engine, monastery, cut and paste, reign.

Plenary / assessment questions

Make sure that all the timelines have been finished correctly. If anyone has information missing, children who have finished can explain where to find the answers. Discuss and explain unfamiliar words.

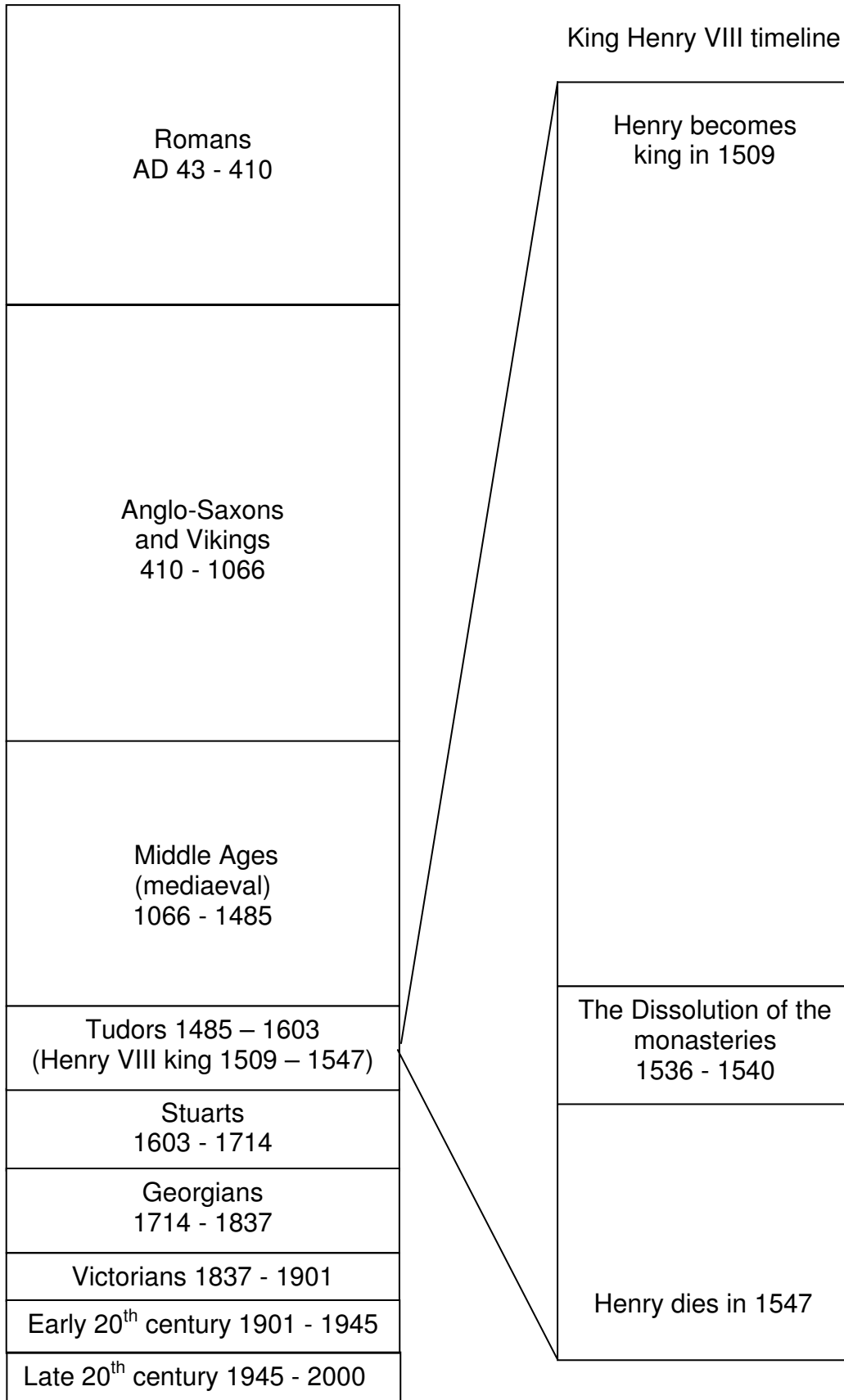
Ask if anyone noticed that the date for the start of the dissolution is not the same on the two timelines. 'The reign of Henry VIII' says February 1536 whereas the Channel 4 timeline says March 1536. Ask why this might be. Identify that a mistake might have been made or there may be no clear evidence to say what the real date is. Further research would be needed to find out what most writers think the correct date is.

Ask why a timeline is a good way to show information about the past. It gives a summary of important events in a clear date order. However it does not give detailed information.

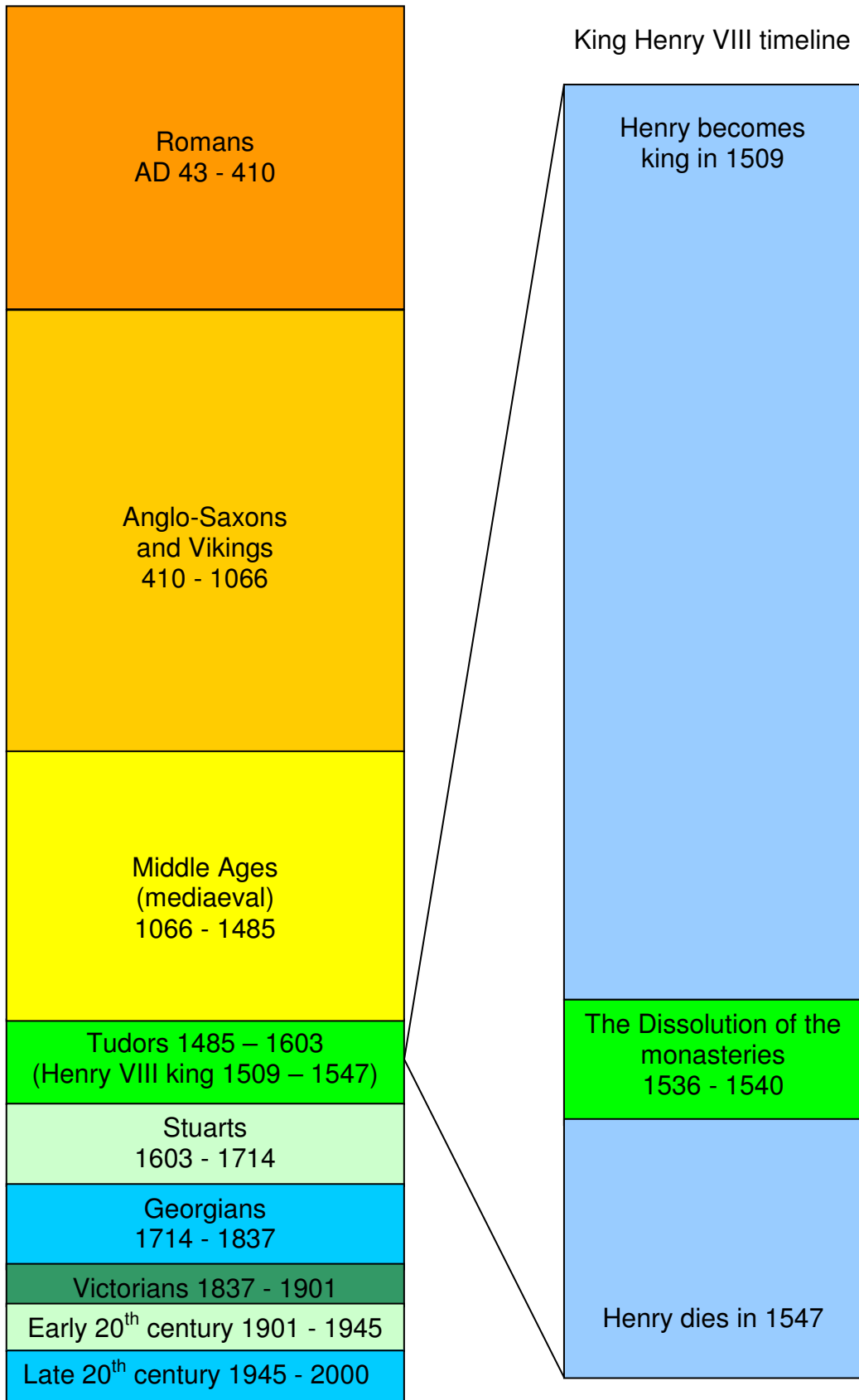
Tell the children that over the next few weeks they will be finding out more about where the monasteries were, what they looked like, what people did there, what happened to the people and the monasteries, and why it happened.

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English history timelines

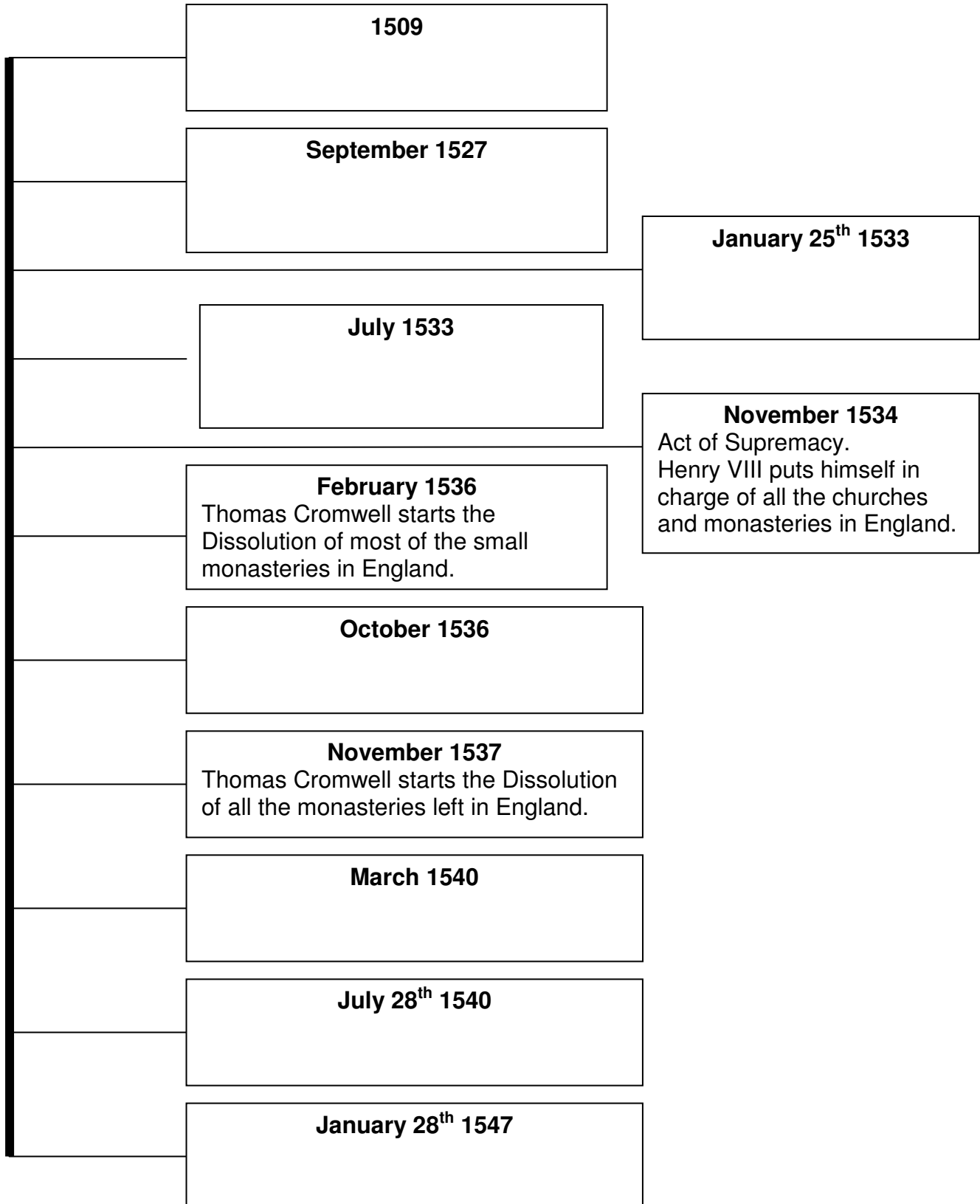


English history timelines

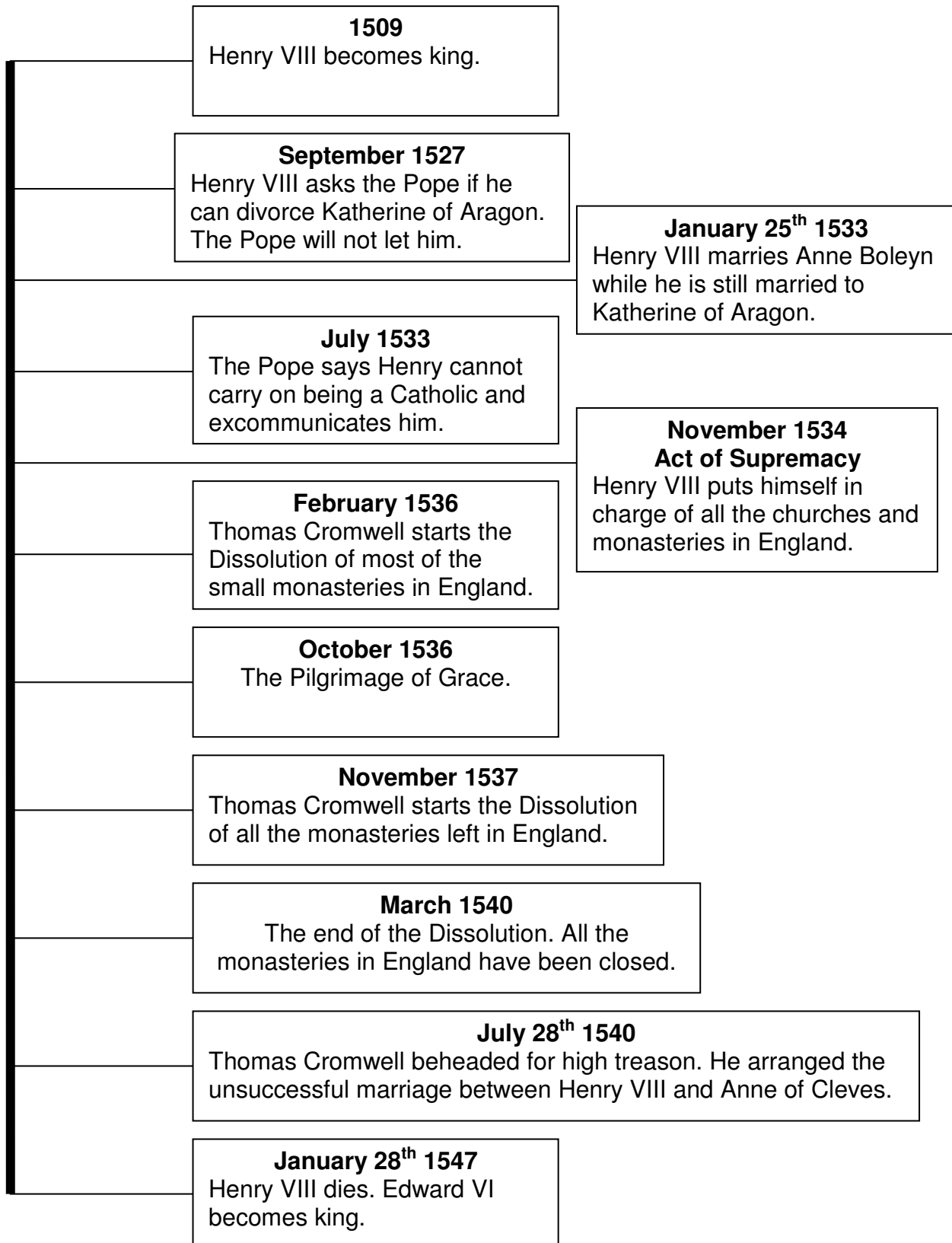


Dissolution of the monasteries timeline

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Dissolution of the monasteries timeline



The reign of Henry VIII

1509

Henry VIII becomes king and marries Katherine of Aragon.

October 1521

Henry VIII is made 'Defender of the Faith' by the Pope for being a good Catholic.

September 1527

Henry VIII asks the Pope if he can divorce Katherine of Aragon but the Pope will not let him.

January 25th 1533

Henry VIII is still married to Katherine of Aragon but he marries Anne Boleyn anyway.

July 1533

The Pope says Henry VIII cannot carry on being a Catholic and excommunicates him.

November 1534

Henry VIII puts himself in charge of all the churches and monasteries in England. This is called the Act of Supremacy.

February 1536

The Dissolution of the monasteries starts. Henry VIII orders Thomas Cromwell to start closing most of the small monasteries in England.

May 1536

Anne Boleyn beheaded.

May 1536

Henry VIII marries Jane Seymour.

September 1536

The end of the Dissolution of the small monasteries in England. Most of them have been closed.

October 1536

The Pilgrimage of Grace.

October 1537

Jane Seymour dies.

November 1537

Henry VIII orders Thomas Cromwell to start the Dissolution (closure) of all the monasteries that are left in England.

January 1540

Henry VIII marries Anne of Cleves.

March 1540

The end of the Dissolution. All the monasteries in England have been closed.

July 1540

Henry VIII divorces Anne of Cleves.

July 1540

Henry VIII marries Catherine Howard.

July 28th 1540

Thomas Cromwell is beheaded for high treason.

February 1542

Catherine Howard executed.

July 1543

Henry VIII marries Catherine Parr.

January 28th 1547

Henry VIII dies.