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6级

适合初一~初三年级学生

# Medieval Days

中世纪

[美] Frances Bacon 著



商务印书馆

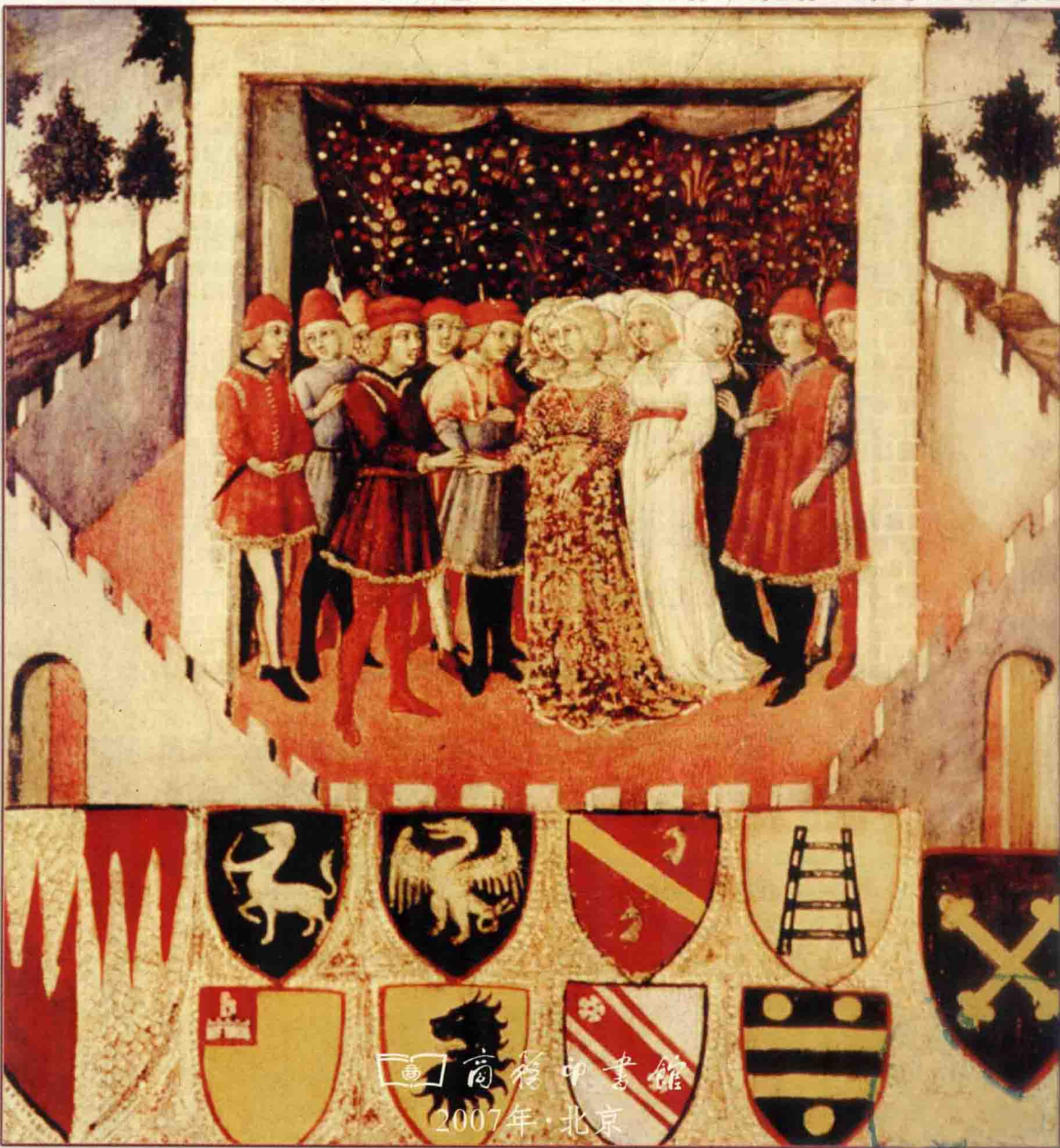


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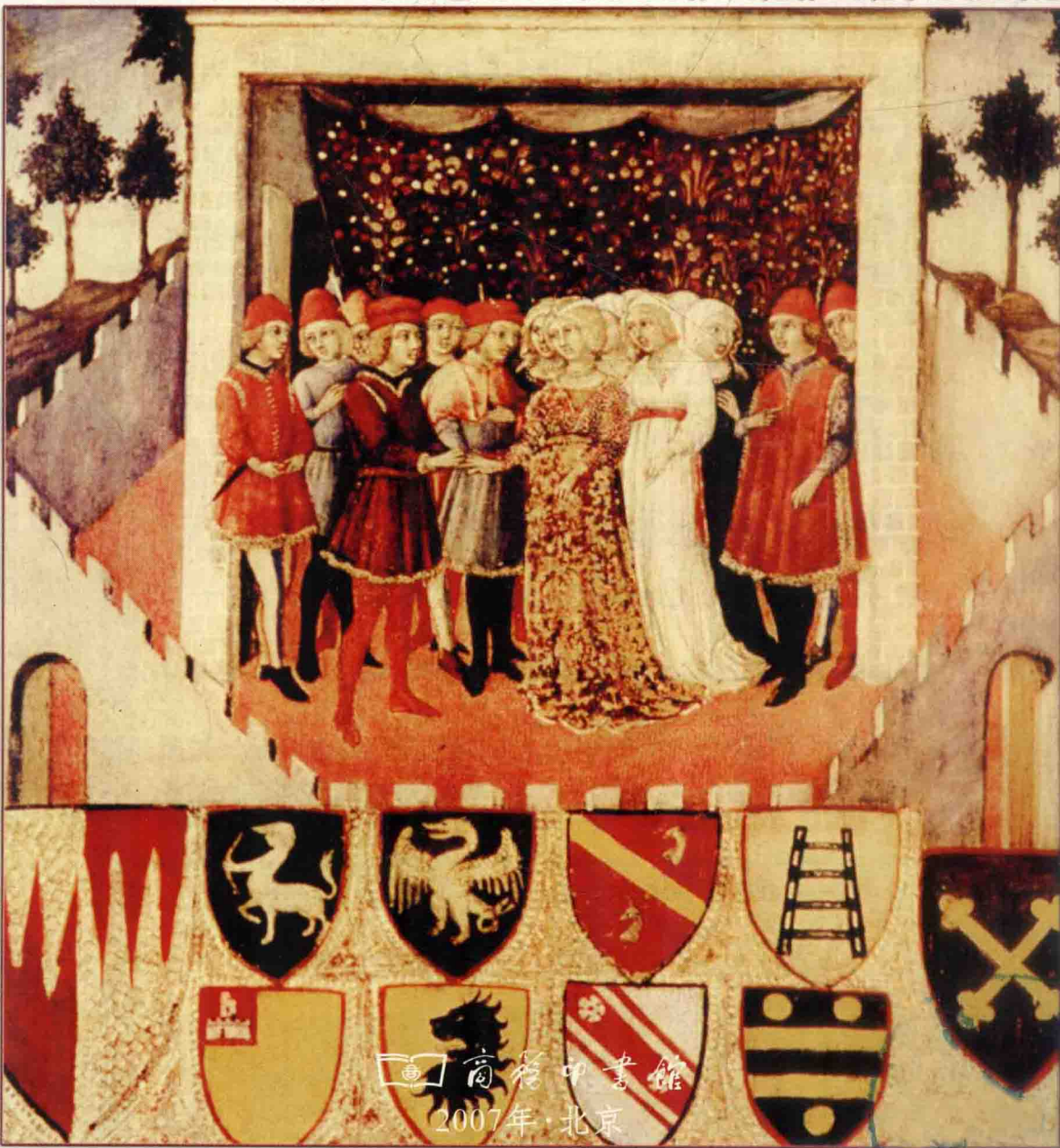


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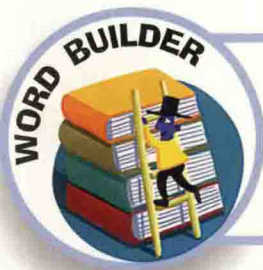




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# Features 导读



Where does the word *medieval* come from? What does it mean? Turn to page 5 to find out.

你知道英语单词“medieval（中世纪的）”的来历吗？翻到第5页，你就能找到答案。



When and where did the first universities begin? Find out on page 17.

你知道最早的大学生生在何时何地？第17页中有答案。



Turn to page 18 to uncover medical mysteries in **Medieval Medicine**.

想揭开中世纪医药学的神秘面纱吗？到第18页去看看。



Follow the steps to make your own medieval masterpiece in **Build Your Own Castle** on page 26.

读一读第26页的“建造你自己的城堡”，按照说明步骤，制作你自己的中世纪城堡吧。



Which medieval hero lived in Sherwood Forest?  
哪位中世纪的英雄生活在舍伍德森林里？

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欲知更多关于“中世纪生活”的知识，请登录商务印书馆教育网站。



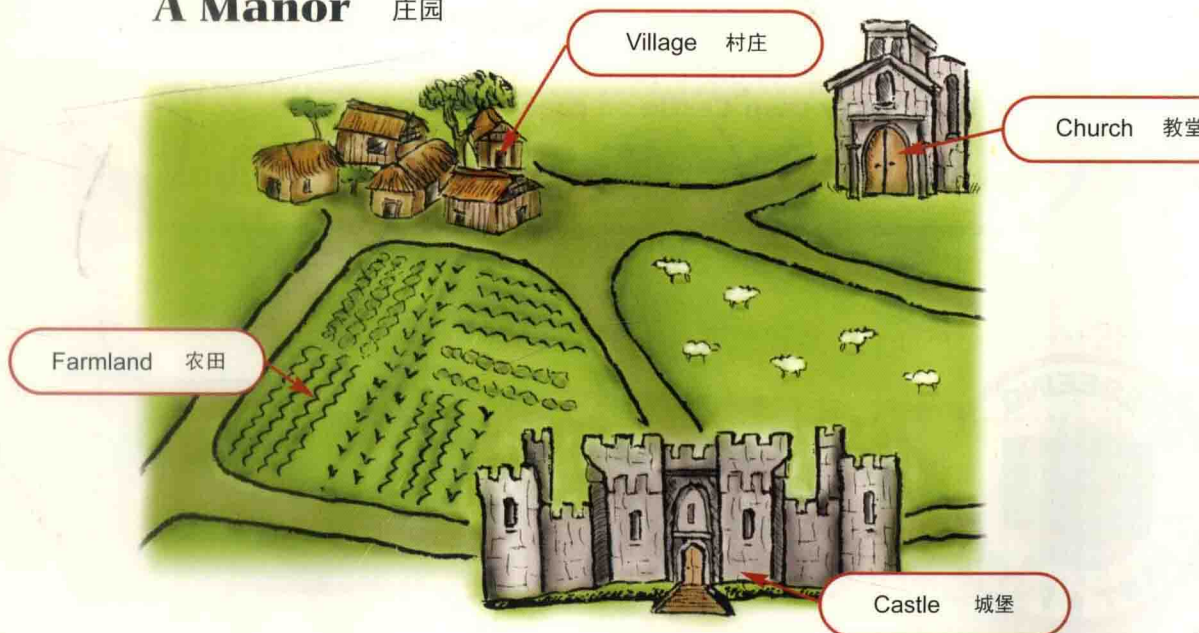


# Life in the Middle Ages

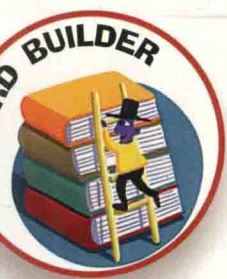
When we think of the medieval days, or **Middle Ages**, we may think of **knights** in shining **armor**, **tournaments**, and castles. However, life in the Middle Ages was very difficult for most people.

Medieval life centered around control of land. A powerful **lord** ruled an area of land. His knights fought to keep it safe from attackers. Working people called peasants farmed the land for the lord. In return, the lord protected the peasants. Most people lived on a **manor** which included a castle for the lord and lady, a church, the village or town, and farmland.

## A Manor 庄园







The word *medieval* comes from two Latin words—*medium*, which means “middle,” and *aevuum*, which means “age.”





# Lords and Ladies

**L**ords and ladies lived in large manor houses or castles. A lord was responsible for managing his land, collecting taxes from the peasants, and keeping law and order. Lords were protected by the king and queen. In return, each lord kept an army of knights who would fight for the king. A lord often owned several castles, and he would take turns staying at each one. A large group of his **followers** and **servants** traveled with him.



When the lord was away from home, his wife, the lady, would be in charge. Ladies were trained how to **spin**, weave, sew, and rule the house servants.







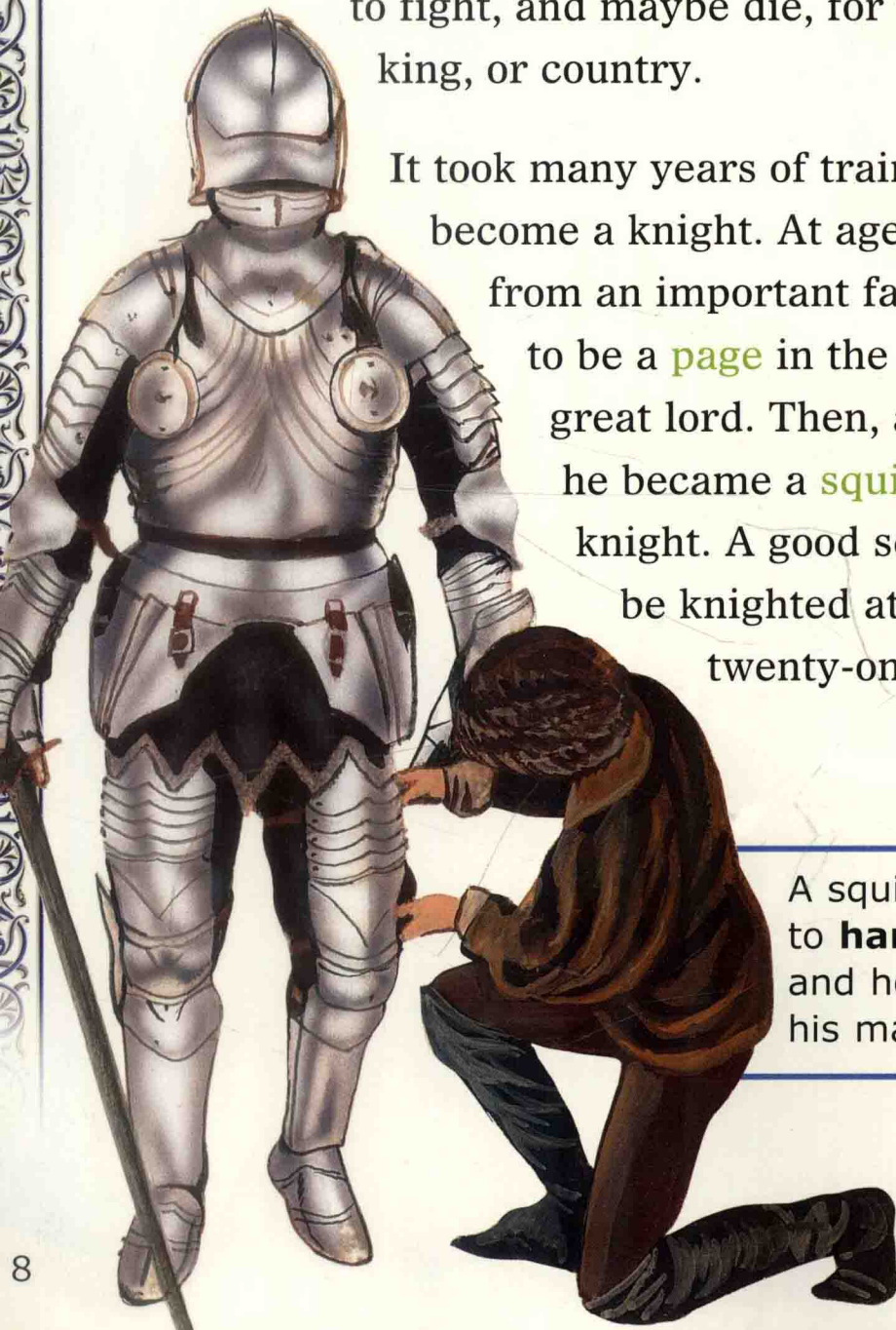


# Knights and Armor

**I**n times of war, lords depended on their knights to protect them. The knights received land in exchange for their service. They were expected to fight, and maybe die, for their lord, king, or country.

It took many years of training to become a knight. At age seven, a boy from an important family went to be a **page** in the castle of a great lord. Then, at fourteen, he became a **squire** to a knight. A good squire would be knighted at the age of twenty-one.

A squire learned how to **handle** weapons and how to look after his master's armor.



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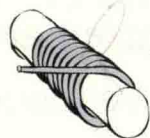




## Chain-Mail Armor

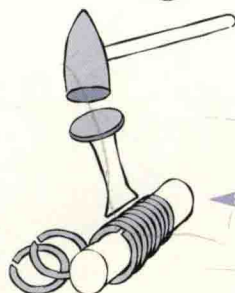
During the 1200s, knights wore chain mail for protection from arrows and swords.

Later, plate armor became popular. Plate armor was better protection against new weapons, but it was very expensive and very heavy to wear!



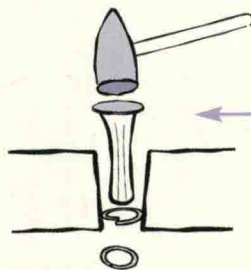
- 1 Wire is wound around a metal bar to make a coil.

将铁丝绕在金属棒上，卷成一个线圈。



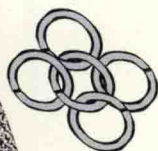
- 2 Each circle of the coil is chopped off the bar to make a link.

将金属棒上的铁丝环截下来，制成一个个链环。

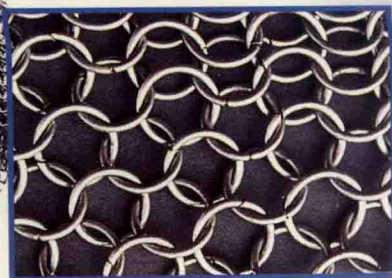


- 3 The links are forced through a narrow space so they overlap at the ends.

挤压链环，使它的两端重叠。



- 4 Other links are threaded through the first link and hammered closed. Slowly, the chain mail comes together. 将更多链环从第一个环中穿过，并合拢接口。一环套一环，锁子甲就制成了。





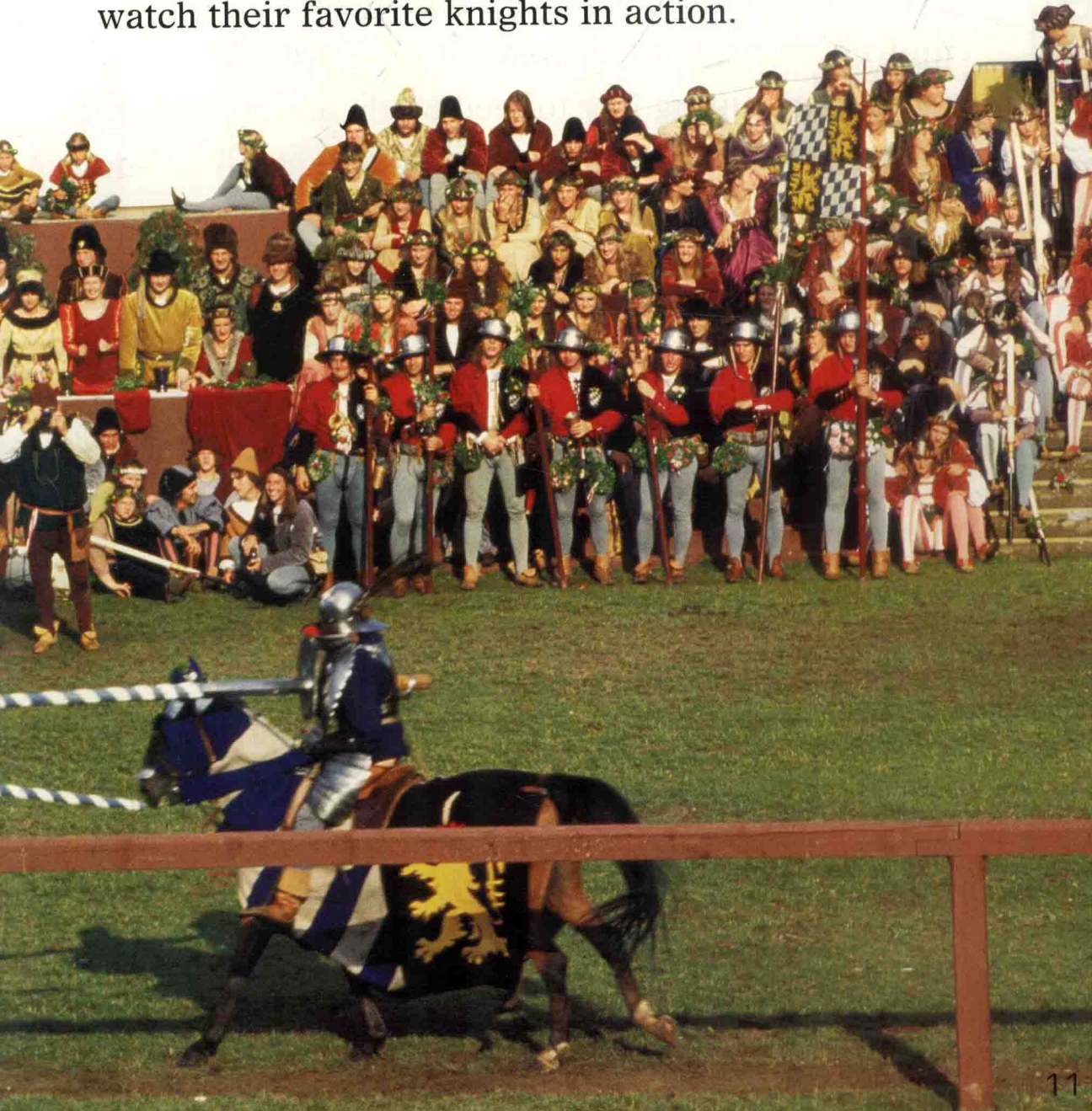
## The Art of Jousting

In times of peace, knights practiced their skills in **jousts** and tournaments. In a tournament, two teams of knights fought a pretend battle. Sharp weapons and battle armor were used at first, but later knights started to use **dull** weapons instead.





Around the same time, jousting became part of tournaments. In a joust, two knights on horseback **charged** toward each other and tried to knock one another to the ground by using a **lance**. Tournaments were popular in the Middle Ages. Ladies would go to watch their favorite knights in action.





# Life in the Country

Most people in medieval days made their living by farming the land. Nearly all work was done by hand. The peasants had to work from dawn to dusk. Men, women, and sometimes children worked in the fields **plowing**, planting, harvesting, cutting hay to feed cattle and horses, and picking fruit. Peasants usually lived in small wooden or stone houses with **thatched** roofs.



What did knights do?

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Often, one room of the house was used for eating and sleeping. The other room was used as a **barn** for the family's cattle.



Medieval women made bread, dug gardens, **plucked** chickens, sheared sheep, spun wool, and wove cloth. They also cared for their families.

