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# INTRODUCTION

**I**MAGINE you could travel back to 1000 years ago. You might visit the seafaring Vikings, or march alongside crusading knights in Jerusalem. Moving on hundreds of years, you could drop in on the Inca Empire, sail the South Seas with Captain Cook, or explore the Wild West. What was it like to live in these exciting places so many years ago?



# A CITY IN THE MIDDLE AGES

**L**IFE WAS busy in a medieval city. Lots of people lived and worked here. Strong stone walls protected the city and

guards controlled who came through its gates. Inside, buildings were crammed together along narrow, winding streets.

## LIFE IN THE CITY

A medieval city was a very dirty, smelly and noisy place! The crowded streets were full of shops. The busy markets sold food grown in farms outside the city. Merchants brought silks, spices

and precious metals from abroad. City craftspeople, such as potters and blacksmiths, made goods to trade with the merchants. People came from miles around to pray in the cathedral. Its huge size showed everyone how very rich the city was.

