

What were the Middle Ages like?

Some history books say that the Middle Ages were violent and dangerous. According to these books, there was war and killing; illness and disease; cruelty and superstition. Look at the paintings on pages 2-5 which come from the Middle Ages and see what you think.

COLLECTION A

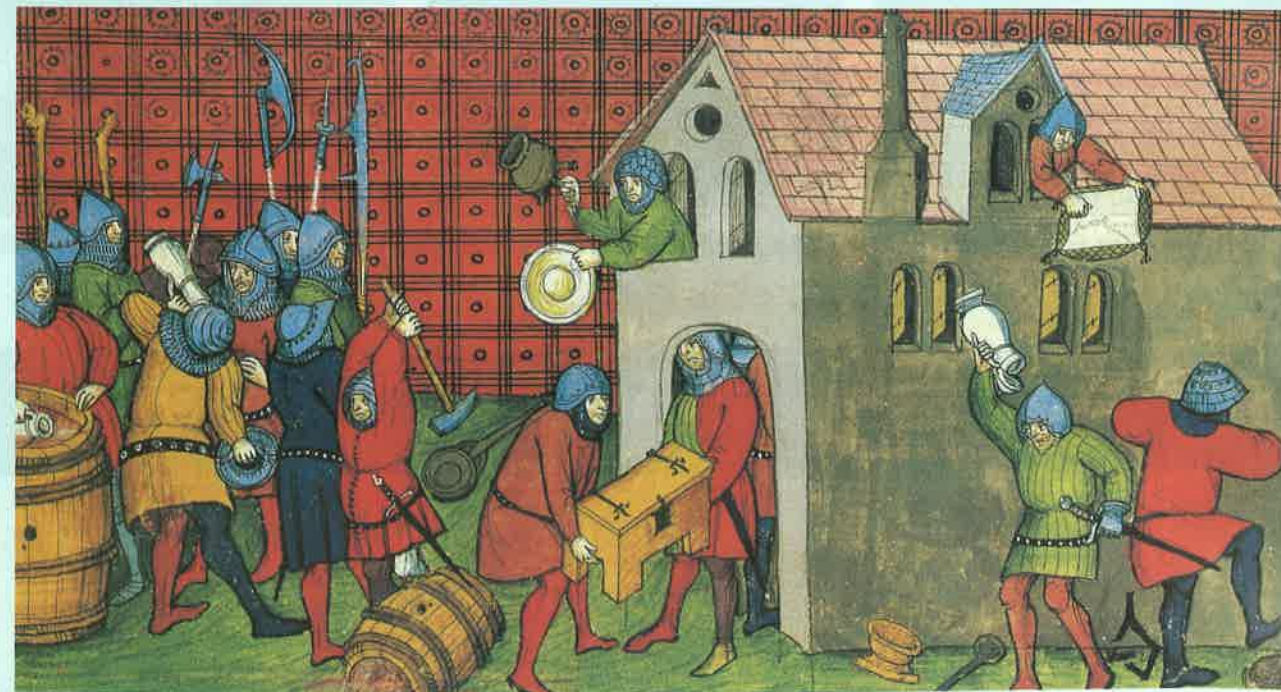
▼ SOURCE 1



SOURCE 2 ►



▼ SOURCE 3



▲ SOURCE 4

▼ SOURCE 5



▼ ACTIVITY

1 In your own words, describe what is happening in each of the sources in Collection A. Here are some words that might help you:

coffins burying baiting attacking
witchcraft goat broomstick
bodies hanging looting war

2 Which of the words below do you think best describe the Middle Ages as they are shown in Collection A?

violent friendly peaceful caring
dark dangerous nasty safe

3 If you were living in the Middle Ages which scene would make you most afraid? Explain why.

4 What chance would you have of living a peaceful, pleasant life?