

Chaucer: Research helpsheet

Try to find out the following information and record it on a table with these three main headings: Chaucer's life; Chaucer's works; Chaucer's times.

- 1) When and where was Geoffrey Chaucer born?
- 2) Did he marry or have children?
- 3) Apart from being a writer, what did he do when he was alive (give one or two examples)?
- 4) When did he die and where is he famously buried?
- 5) What are his most famous works? (Give names of some different tales and an overview of what the tales were about)
- 6) What is a 'fabliau'?
- 7) What is 'Courtly love'?
- 8) What is a 'Breton lai' (or lay)?
- 9) What was life like in Medieval Britain?
- 10) Can you find any other famous stories or writers writing at the same time or a little earlier than Chaucer (who may have influenced him)?

You will be going on to create a leaflet giving information about Chaucer and his times. It will be aimed at teenagers - to get them interested in finding out more about Chaucer. You may wish to save pictures that you think will be useful (or websites).