

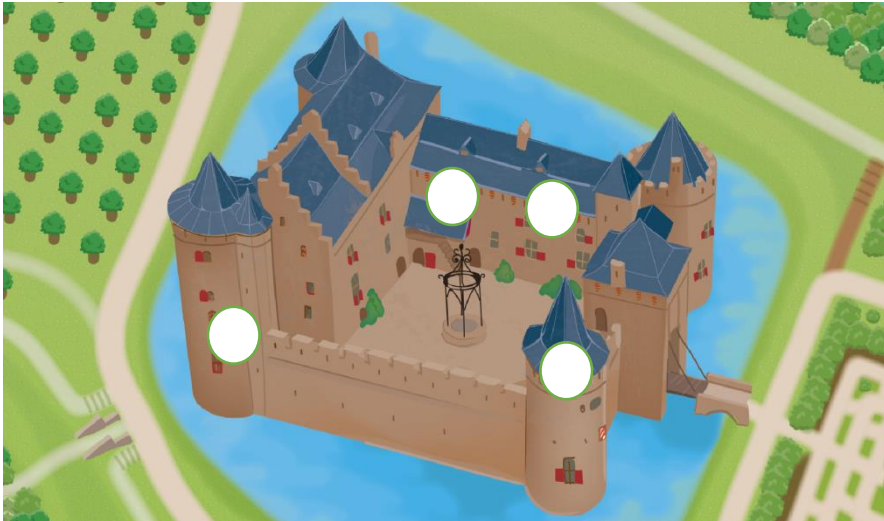
## MUIDERSLOT

The Muiderslot was built 700 years ago by Floris V. He was the Count of Holland and Zeeland.

### Courtyard

In the courtyard, you can take a good look around and see how the castle was built. The castle was built to live in, as a defensive fortress, and as a courthouse.

Indicate in the image where you think that the (1) living room, (2) the chapel, (3) the dungeon and (4) the guard's residence are.



Then, take the Tower route, go up the wooden steps and enter the tower.

### Guard residence

This tower room was inhabited. How can you tell?

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Look for the toilet. Sit on it and let someone photograph you. Does that feel weird? In medieval times, people thought it was completely normal to use the toilet while everyone was looking. They even thought it was weird if you did that when you were alone, because they thought that you could be tempted by the devil if you did. In medieval times, the toilet was also known as the 'splash loo' (*plonsplee*). Why?

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### Dead-end chemin de ronde

Go up the stairs to the wall. A 'chemin de ronde' or round walk is a (covered) corridor on top of a medieval fortification wall. How many of these round walks can you see from here?

You can see that these round walks were not connected to each other in medieval times. Why was this an advantage when you had to defend the Muiderslot?

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### Top of the Gate Tower

Cross the new bridge, enter the Gate Tower and go up the stairs. Count the arrow slits. How many are there? There are also 4 murder holes. These were used to throw all kinds of things at the enemy to take them down. Can you find these 4 murder holes?

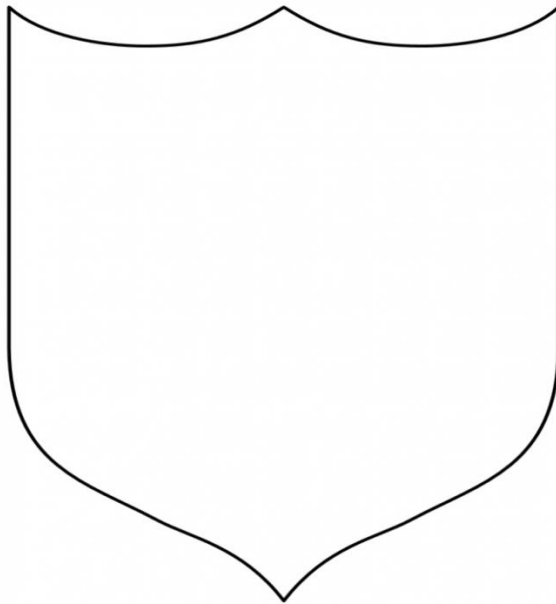
If you had the choice, would you rather defend the Muiderslot or attack it? Explain your answer.

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**Heralds' Room**

Go one floor down to the Heralds' Room. This room belonged to the herald, who knew everything about coats of arms. All noble families had their own coats of arms. You can recognise the one of count Floris V by a red lion on a yellow background.

What kind of family do you come from? What are you proud of as a family? Design your own coat of arms. Let it depict what kind of family you are.



**Chapel**

Follow the Tower route and go one floor down with the spiral staircase to the Chapel. A chapel is a small church inside a castle where people went to pray. Almost everyone in the Middle Ages believed in a God. People prayed to ask God for help. Sit or lay down in the chapel. Look up at the stars above you and write down what you would wish for.

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**P.C. Hooft's Study**

Go to the study of P.C. Hooft on the same floor. P.C. Hooft was one of the most famous Dutch poets and 'songwriters' of the 17<sup>th</sup> century. In his texts he often came up with new Dutch words to express what he meant by using his own made-up language.

- a) Which singer (or rapper) do you think is the biggest language innovator in music today?
- b) What is his/her funniest word or saying?

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**Muiderslot. The secret key to Amsterdam**

Go a few steps down on the spiral staircase and walk around on the exhibition *Muiderslot, the secret key of Amsterdam*. When did the Muiderslot become an Amsterdam castle? Explain why.

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