

# The Anglo-Saxons and Vikings



## Objectives

### Chronology

- Use dates and historical terms more accurately in describing events
- Place features of historical events and people from past societies and periods in a chronological framework
- Create timelines which outline the development of specific features, such as medicine; weaponry; transport, etc Describe the main changes in a period of history (using terms such as: social, religious and cultural)
- Explain the chronology of different time periods (local, British and world history) and how they relate to one another on a timeline
- Make connections and contrasts between different time periods studied and talk about trends over time

### Continuity and Change

- Describe in detail any historical events from the different period/s I am studying/have studied
- Make comparisons and contrasts between historical periods; explaining things that have changed and things which have stayed the same
- Appreciate that significant events in history have helped shape the country we have today
- Describe the social, ethnic, cultural or religious diversity of past society

### Cause and Consequence

- Suggest causes and consequences of some of the main events and changes in history

### Similarity and Difference

- Describe the social, ethnic, cultural or religious diversity of past societies
- Describe the characteristic features of the past, including ideas, beliefs, attitudes and experiences of men, women and children
- Begin to compare some of the times studied with those of other areas of interest around the world

### Historical Enquiry

- Understand that no single source of evidence gives the full answer to questions about the past
- Seek out and analyse a wide range of evidence in order to justify claims
- Appreciate how historical artefacts have helped us understand more about British lives in the present and past
- Use documents, printed sources, the Internet, pictures, photographs, artefacts, historic buildings, visits to museums and visits to sites to collect evidence about the past.

## Vocabulary

Danegeld	exile	invade	kingdom	longship
outlawed	pagans	pillaged	raid	wergild
Scandinavian		trade	longhouse	monasteries

## Hook into a Book



## Activate Prior Knowledge

### EY

- Making sense of their own life story and family's history
- Comment on images of familiar situations from the past
- Know some similarities and differences between things in the past and now, drawing on their experiences and what has been read in class.
- Understand the past through settings, characters and events encountered in books read in class and storytelling.

Context: All about me, Dinosaurs, Space, Transport

### KS1

- Chronology of time periods. What comes before and after.
  - Using historical evidence to find out about the past
- Context: Captain Cook, GfOL, Local History

### KS2

- Egyptian civilization – similarities/difference
  - Overlaps in time period with Ancient Egyptians and Romans.
  - Using historical evidence and evaluating its reliability
  - The Roman Empire
  - Stone, Bronze and Iron Age
  - Location of places and regions in the UK
- Context: Ancient Egypt, Romans, Britain, Stone, Bronze and Iron Age

### Links to Future Learning

- Overlaps in time period with Anglo - Saxon Britain
  - Chronology of time periods. What comes before and after.
  - Using and selecting historical evidence and evaluating its reliability
  - Civilizations and their impact on the world
- Context: Anglo – Saxons, Ancient Greece

Who were the Vikings and why did they invade and settle in Britain?

What did the Anglo-Saxons and Vikings leave behind?

What was life really like in Anglo-Saxon and Viking Britain?

## Chronology

### Key Events

AD 793	The Vikings attack from Norway. They attack the Monastery of Lindisfarne in Northumbria. The following year they attack northern Britain, in what we now call Scotland.
AD 866	The Vikings capture the city of York.
AD 870	Wessex is the last Anglo-Saxon kingdom.
AD 871	Alfred the Great becomes King of Wessex. He drives the invading Vikings from the south but they stay in the north and the east.
AD 878	By this time, the Vikings had settled permanently in England, overran Wessex and forced King Alfred into hiding.
AD 886	King Alfred agrees to a treaty with the Vikings. Alfred keeps the west and the Vikings are given the east which is later known as 'Danelaw'.
AD 900	The Vikings establish rule over northern Scotland
AD 954	The last Viking King of Jorvick (York), Eric Bloodaxe, is forced out of York.
AD 1013	King Sven of Denmark and his son Cnut sail up the rivers Humber and Trent to claim the throne in Danelaw and Ethelred, the Saxon King, flees abroad.
AD 1014	King Sven dies and Ethelred returns to rule England again.
AD 1016	King Ethelred dies. His son, Edmund Ironside, becomes king for a few months until he also dies. Cnut becomes King of the Danes and King of England.
AD 1035	King Cnut dies. His sons Harold Harefoot and Hardicanute share the ruling of England. Harold dies in 1040 and Hardicanute becomes the sole ruler of England.
AD 1042	Ethelred's second son, Edward is invited to return from Normandy to become the King of England. Edward was better known as 'Edward the Confessor' due to his extreme piety.
AD 1066	The last Anglo-Saxon king, King Harold, is defeated by William the Conqueror at the Battle of Hastings and Norman Britain begins.

## Timeline



Mayan civilisation flourished in Central America from about 2600BC until around AD1000

## Location



They set out in boats called longships to 'go Viking' (which means to go travelling around looking for resources and land to claim as their own).

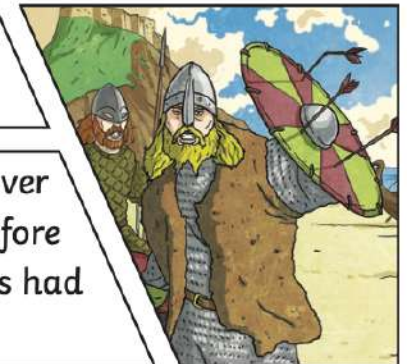
The Vikings first arrived in Britain around AD 787 and in AD 793 they raided and pillaged the monastery at Lindisfarne in Northumbria.

## Who were the Vikings and why did they invade and settle in Britain?

### The Early Vikings

The Vikings came from the modern Scandinavian countries of Denmark, Norway and Sweden. They travelled in boats called **longships** and first arrived in Britain around AD 787. The Vikings **raided** places such as monasteries and **pillaged** expensive items to trade. They were looking for valuable goods like gold and jewels, imported foods and other useful materials.

The Vikings also wanted to claim land and tried to take over much of Britain. They **invaded** and settled in Scotland before heading south to places such as York. By AD 878 the Vikings had settled permanently in Britain.



### What was life like in Anglo-Saxon and Viking Britain?

#### Viking Life

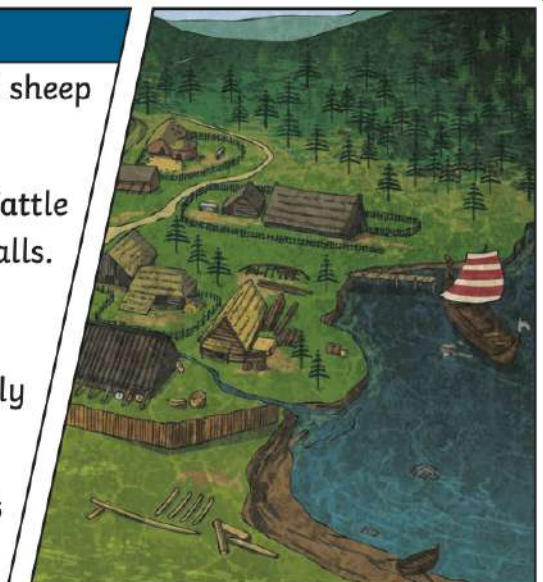
**Farms** - Vikings lived on farms and kept cows, pigs and sheep for milk, wool and meat.

**Houses** - Walls made of stone or wood. A straw roof. Wattle and daub (sticks and mud/dung) for the inside of the walls.

**Jewellery** - Worn to show off how rich a person was.

**Pagans** - Vikings arrived as **pagans** but eventually converted to Christianity.

**Sagas** - Vikings used rhyme to tell stories about adventures and battles against monsters.



#### Viking Laws and Punishments

Viking laws were not written down but passed on by word of mouth. Punishments could include fines, being **semi-outlawed**, fighting to the death, or revenge on someone who has killed a family member.

### How did Vikings trade?

#### What did the Vikings trade?

- The Vikings traded all over Europe and as far east as Central Asia.
- They bought goods and materials such as **silver, silk, spices, wine, jewellery, glass and pottery**.
- In return, they sold items like honey, tin, wheat, wool, wood, iron, fur, leather, fish and walrus ivory. Everywhere they went, the Vikings **bought** and **sold** enslaved people too.
- Viking traders carried a set of **folding scales** which they used to weigh coins to make sure they got a fair deal.



### Why did the Anglo-Saxons come to Britain?

**To fight:** Some Anglo-Saxons were warriors who enjoyed fighting. They thought the Britons were weak and easy to beat without the Romans around.

**To farm:** Many Anglo-Saxons came peacefully, to find land to farm. Their homelands in Scandinavia often flooded so it was tough to grow enough food back there.

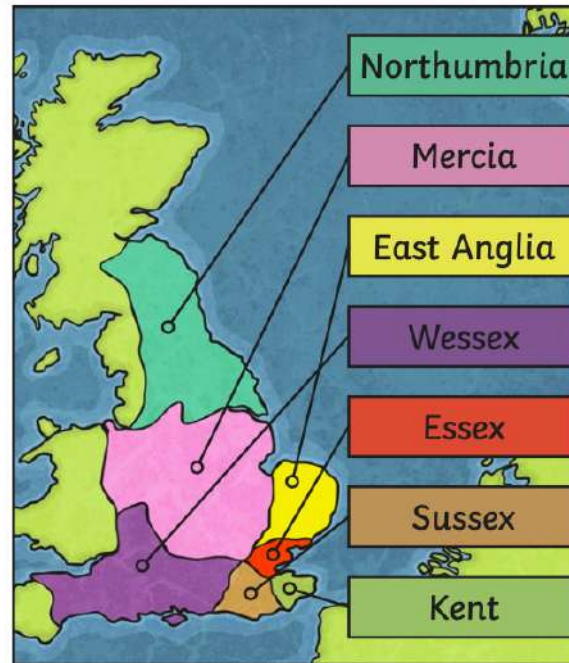
**To make new homes:** Whole families set sail across the sea to live in Britain. They brought tools, weapons and farm animals with them and built villages with new homes.

**They were invited:** With Picts and Scots attacking from the north, the Britons invited some Anglo-Saxons to help defend them. But they didn't leave! They took over.



### Anglo-Saxon Kings

The kings of Anglo-Saxon Britain each ruled their own **kingdom** and the people in it. They fought to defend their **kingdom** or take control of other **kingdoms**. When the Anglo-Saxons first settled in Britain, there were seven **kingdoms**, but by AD 878 there was just one **kingdom** left (Wessex) as the others had been overrun by the Vikings. Many Anglo-Saxon kings tried to resist the Vikings and fought hard to keep control of their land. King Alfred the Great was the best known Anglo-Saxon king and the first to defeat the Vikings in battle.



### Anglo-Saxon Laws and Punishments

The Anglo-Saxon laws were very similar to some we have today, although the punishments were very different. These were often very brutal and would be carried in public to act as deterrents, to discourage others from committing such crimes. Stoning, whipping and **exile** were common punishments; as well as paying a fine (**wergild**), or receiving reparations in the form of hot or cold water ordeals.



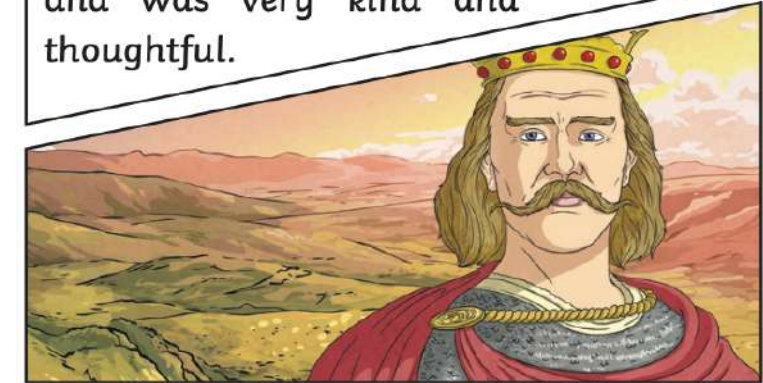
### What did the Anglo-Saxons believe?

- In Roman Britain many people had been Christians. But the early Anglo-Saxons were not Christians, they were pagans.
- After the Romans left, Christianity continued in places where Anglo-Saxons did not settle, like Wales and the west. However, when the Anglo-Saxons came to Britain, they brought their own gods and beliefs with them.
- Over time their beliefs changed, and many Anglo-Saxons were converted to Christianity.



### The Last Anglo-Saxon Kings

AD 1042 – Edward the Confessor became King. He was known as 'the Confessor' because he led a very religious life and was very kind and thoughtful.



AD 1066 – Harold II tried to stop Harald of Norway from invading England and killed him in the Battle of Stamford Bridge.

William, the Duke of Normandy, thought he should be king so came to fight Harold in the Battle of Hastings (AD 1066). Harold was shot through the eye with an arrow and died in the battle. William of Normandy, who became known as William the Conqueror, became King, bringing the Viking and Anglo-Saxon age to an end in AD 1066.

