




Vikings Knowledge Organiser Y6 Autumn Term 2

The Vikings (also known as Norsemen) came from the countries we now call Norway, Sweden and Denmark. This area is known as Scandinavia. Norsemen travelled the seas on longboats raiding and plundering lands. The Viking Age in Britain began around 1200 years ago and lasted for just over 200 years. Around the year AD 790 Vikings first started to raid Britain. They started out as short trips to steal treasure and take slaves. In time, Vikings made their home in Britain They drove the Saxons out of part of Britain and took it for themselves. The Saxon King, King Alfred of Wessex, fought them in a great battle but he could not stop them at first so had to let them have part of the country in a treaty known as Danelaw.

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| AD 793  The Vikings attack the island of Lindisfarne. | AD 866  The Vikings capture the city of York. | AD 878  They settle permanently in England. | AD 886  King Alfred agrees to a treaty with the Vikings. | AD 954  The last Viking king of Jorvik 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. |  |
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Viking raids and invasions

- **When did the Vikings arrive in Britain?**
- **Where did the Vikings come from?**
- **Why did the Vikings travel to Britain?**

Alfred the Great and Athelstan

- **Who was King Alfred and why is he important?**
- **Why was King Athelstan so significant?**

Further Viking invasions

- **Where in Britain did the Vikings trade, settle or invade?**

Viking art and culture

- **What was it like for a Viking family?**
- **What did the Vikings eat?**
- **Viking homes and settlements**

Key figures

King Alfred the Great (AD 849-899) Alfred was one of the greatest Anglo-Saxon kings. After years of fighting, Alfred made peace with the Vikings.

King Athelstan (AD 894-939) Alfred the Great's grandson. He reigned between AD925 and AD939 and was the very first 'King of all England'

King Canute (AD 995-1035) Viking King of England, Denmark and Norway.

VOCABULARY

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| Vikings | Scandinavian seafaring pirates and traders, who raided and settled in many parts of North western Europe |
| Anglo-Saxons | Main group of people living in Britain when the Vikings invaded. |
| Scandinavia | Countries of Norway, Sweden and Denmark. This is the area Vikings came from  |
| Danelaw | Area in Britain that the Danish Vikings ruled over. |
| Invade | Take control of a country using the force of an army |
| Conquer | Overcome and take control of a place or group of people by military force. |
| Settle | Some Vikings settled in Britain after the invasion |
| Trade | Sell items for money, or swap them for other valuable items. |
| Raid | Steal loot/treasures during a surprise attack, often causing damage at the same time. |