

Big Question: Who were the Vikings and why did they come to Britain?

Y6 History – Vikings



Assessment Questions:

Why did the Vikings tend to win most battles with the Anglo-Saxons?

What was life like in Viking Britain?

What was life like for an 11 year old Viking child?

What did the Vikings eat?



Vocabulary:

Jorvik – Viking name for York

Danelaw – part of England ruled by Vikings

King – male ruler of a kingdom

Warrior – brave or experienced soldier

Freeman – person who is not a slave

Slave – person who is the property of another who is forced to obey them

Barbarian – person from a different land, culture or group believed to be inferior, uncivilized or violent; non-Christian

Heathen – person who does not belong to a common religious group

Thatched – cover of a building or roof of straw or reeds

Longboat – type of large rowing boat

Longhouse – wooden one-room dwelling

Find out more about the Vikings? Visit:



Tamworth Castle which was a border town between Danelaw and England. It was attacked and destroyed by the Vikings in 874.

Jorvik Viking museum in York.



The British Museum, London includes a genuine Viking longboat.

Ancient Technology Centre, Dorset to experience life as a Viking.



Timeline

410 Roman rule in Britain ends

448-550 Jutes, Angles and Saxons invade and settle

793 Vikings raid Lindisfarne Monastery

794 Onwards Viking raids on the British Isles

865 Great Viking army from Denmark invades

866 Vikings capture York (Jorvik) and settle

876 Vikings settle permanently in England

886 King Alfred the Great defeats the Vikings but allows them to settle in the Kingdoms of York and East Anglia. Known as Danelaw ruled by King Guthrum

901-937 Danelaw conquered by the Saxons

954 Eric Bloodaxe, the last Viking King of Jorvik is thrown out

980 Viking raids on England

994 Vikings lead an unsuccessful siege of London and ransack South East of England

1014 King Canute of Denmark captures England

1042 Edward the Confessor (Saxon) becomes King

1066 Norman invasion. William the Conqueror becomes first Norman King

Recommended books:

Beowulf by Michael Morpurgo, **Norse Myths: Tales of Odin, Thor and Loki** by Kevin Crossley-Holland

Viking Boy and Anglo-Saxon Boy (Tony Bradman), **How to train your dragon series** (Cressida Cowell), **The Time-Travelling Cat and the Viking Terror** (Julia Jarman), **Riddle of the Runes** (Janina Ramirez)



Flashback Questions:

Who were the Anglo Saxons? Who had invaded Britain prior to the arrival of the Anglo Saxons? Why did the Anglo Saxons invade Britain? Where were they from? What did they bring to Britain? How did they differ from the Romans? What did the Anglo Saxons bring to Britain and how has it influenced life in Britain today?