



UKS2 History Knowledge Organiser - Island Invaders

Key Knowledge and Skills

Who were the Anglo-Saxons?



The last Roman soldiers left Britain by AD410. New people came to Britain in ships across the North Sea - the Anglo-Saxons. The Anglo-Saxon age in Britain was from around AD410 to 1066.

- The Anglo-Saxons were a mix of tribes from Germany, Denmark and the Netherlands.
- The three biggest were the Angles, the Saxons and the Jutes.
- The land they settled in became known as 'Angle-land', or England.
- They brought Germanic languages, new customs and dress.

Who were the Vikings?

The Viking age was from roughly AD700 to 1100. Many Vikings left their homes in Scandinavia and travelled by longboat to other countries, like Britain and Ireland. They were Norse people who came from an area called Scandinavia (Norway, Sweden and Denmark). The word Viking means 'a pirate raid', which is a fitting name as they were fearsome warriors and often raided monasteries for treasure. They were not always violent; they also settled with their families and farmed the land peacefully for many years. Vikings sailed the seas trading goods. They bought silver, silks, spices, wine, jewellery, glass and pottery to bring back home.



King Alfred the Great

Alfred was born in 849 AD and served as King of Wessex from 871 to his death in 899 AD. In this time, he ruled successfully over his Anglo-Saxon kingdom and was a strong leader.



His most important achievement was to stop an island-wide invasion from the Danes and establish a united Anglo-Saxon culture.

Vikings would often come to England to raid and take goods home but in 865 AD they came to stay and settle on the land! This was a problem for Anglo-Saxons who already lived here. They battled with the Vikings over several years but by 874 AD the Vikings had taken over most parts of England; except for Wessex which was the part ruled by King Alfred. He agreed to a peace agreement where Anglo-Saxons



would live in part of the country and the Vikings in the other.

Key Vocabulary

Word	Definition
Romans	Soldiers originating from Rome, Italy. They were in England from AD 43 - 410.
Anglo-Saxons	A mix of tribes from Germany, Denmark and the Netherlands. They first raided England in the fourth century AD.
Vikings	Scandinavian warriors that raided England and eventually fought to settle there. Their first recorded attack on England was in 793 AD.
Picts and Scots	People who lived in Eastern and Northern Scotland during this time period.
Britons	The people who originally lived in Britain before the invasion.
Invade	To enter and occupy land.
Raid	A surprise/unexpected attack.
Kingdom	A certain area ruled by a King.
Monastery	A building where people worship and devote their time to God.
Settlement	A place where people have come to live.

Our Enquiry Question

What happened during the Viking and Anglo-Saxon struggle for the Kingdom of England?

449 AD

Anglo Saxon invaders arrive in Britain from mainland Europe.



Anglo Saxons gradually take over Britain with succesful invasions.

600 AD



793 AD

The Vikings travel over and attack the Lindisfarne Monastery. They begin years of fighting to gradually take over Britain.

Vikings capture city of York.
866 AD

871 AD

Alfred the Great becomes King of Wessex (Anglo saxon Kingdom) and drives the Vikings from the South away.



Athelstan becomes King of Wessex.
924 AD

927 AD

Athelstan is victorious at the Battle of Brunanburh.

King Harold is defeated by William the Conqueror at the Battle of Hastings.

1066 AD



