

Y4 - SAVAGE SAXONS & VICIOUS VIKINGS - KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER

ANGLO-SAXONS IN BRITAIN

The Romans left Britain in a weak state, the emperor taking the legions abroad. This left Britain with few troops to protect itself from raids and attacks. The Anglo-Saxons originated from Germany, Denmark and The Netherlands. There are many reasons why the Anglo-Saxons could have come to Britain:



It was difficult to grow crops in their homelands due to flooding.



Whole families sailed to Britain to build new homes and villages.



They believed Britain would be easy to defeat without the Romans.

ANGLO-SAXON KINGS



King Egbert (802-839 AD)

Known for uniting all of the English kingdoms under one rule.

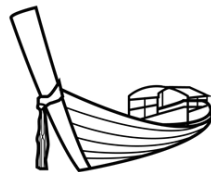


Alfred the Great (871-899 AD)

Known for defending Britain and securing peace between Britain and the Vikings.

ARTEFACTS

We can learn a lot about the Anglo-Saxon period from artefacts that archaeologists have found throughout the years. Artefacts include:



Longboats



Helmets



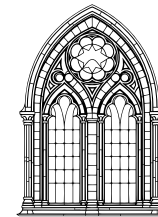
Coins



Rings



Brooches



Stained glass windows

THE BATTLE OF MALDON

Viking boats landed on Northey Island to the east of Maldon. **Byrhtnoth** (Ealdorman of Essex) and his army cornered them there until low tide. As the tide fell, the Vikings crossed the causeway. Byrhtnoth and his army were killed in the battle but the Vikings did not have enough men remaining to conquer Maldon so they fled.



VIKINGS COMING TO BRITAIN

Vikings came to Britain from Scandinavia in search of land and riches.

Norway, Denmark and Sweden were overpopulated, while Britain had lots of farmland which was attractive to the Vikings. They raided towns on the east coast in search of riches. When they had settled, the Vikings ruled over the region they named Danelaw.

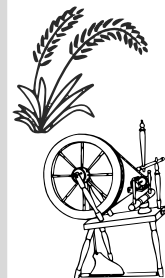


LIFE IN VIKING BRITAIN

Not all Vikings came to raid and invade, some came to live. Living in Viking villages was shaped by the seasons and everyone had a role to play to ensure there was enough to eat.



During the summer months, male Vikings would form raiding parties and sail across the sea to raid settlements, or monasteries.



It was the women and children who looked after the farming. Crops had to be looked after and harvested, animals had to be cared for to preserve them so there was food to eat over the winter. They would often spin wool into thread and make cloth.