

What do I already know?

- Iron Age, Romans, Battle of Hastings

History : YEAR FOUR, SUMMER TERM

BIG IDEA—Who were our Viking invaders?

Stone Age	Ancient Egyptians	Bronze Age	Iron Age	Ancient Greeks	Mayan Civilisation	43AD—410AD Romans	410AD—1066 Anglo Saxons	1066 Battle of Hastings	1100 Iroquois Tribes	1666 Great Fire	1700 Coal Mining	1760 Captain Cook	1837-1901 Victorian	1914-1918 WWI	1939-45 WWII
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SECTION 1 KEY VOCABULARY	
Anglo-Saxon	The people who invaded and settled in Britain from the 5th century.
Christian	A person who believes in the existence of Jesus Christ and follows the life teachings of the Christian faith.
kingdom	A country, state or territory ruled by a king of queen.
longship	A ship used by the Vikings to raid distant lands. It had a narrow hull, a single square sail and many oars.
monastery	A building in which monks (men who have devoted their lives to their Christian faith) live and worship.
pagan	Belonging to a religion that worships many gods.
Viking	A member of a Scandinavian tribe who invaded and settles in Britain between the 8th and 11th centuries.

SECTION 2

Why did the Vikings invade Britain?



The Vikings came from Scandinavia, where the land is very harsh and at times inhospitable. They found there was not enough good land and food for everyone to share so they travelled near and far to find wealth and new lands.

They were fearsome in battle and not afraid to raid unknown territories. The Vikings first invaded Anglo-Saxon Britain in 793 AD. Although the Vikings were originally pagans, they became Christians to allow them to live and trade more easily with their neighbours.

SECTION 3

Were the Vikings just great warriors?



The Vikings were skilled craftsmen. Not only were they warriors but also farmers, fishermen, traders and so much more. They made strong weapons, fast ships and beautiful metalwork and wood carvings. They also made jewellery from metal, wood and glass.

Viking women were skilled at spinning wool to weave into cloth and dyed fabrics. They too could be brave warriors and fight alongside the men. The Vikings were pagans, who believed in many gods and believed that death in battle would bring them a glorious afterlife.

SECTION 4

What happened to Viking rule in Britain?



- Before the Vikings invaded, the Anglo-Saxons had divided England into seven kingdoms: Northumbria, Mercia, East Anglia, Essex, Kent, Wessex, Sussex. Each kingdom was ruled by a different Anglo-Saxon king.
- When the Vikings first invaded, they looted monasteries (which were undefended and contained valuable items) and returned to their native land with their stolen wealth. However, they eventually conquered land and took over many Anglo-Saxon kingdoms, choosing to settle in Britain for its fertile farming land.
- By AD 870, Wessex was the only Anglo-Saxon kingdom left! The Vikings tried to invade Wessex, but the wise and popular King Alfred fought the Vikings back. Alfred then made a deal with the Viking leader, Guthrum, to share Britain between them. However, fighting continued. Eventually, in 1066, new invaders arrived to take over the

SECTION 5

TIMELINE OF EVENTS FROM CURRENT TOPIC

AD 787



The Vikings first arrive in Britain.

AD 793



The Vikings attack the monastery at Lindisfarne, Northumbria.

AD 866



The Vikings capture the city of York.

AD 870



Wessex is the last Anglo-Saxon kingdom.

AD 871



Alfred the Great becomes the King of Wessex and manages to drive the Vikings out of the South.

AD 878



By this time, the Vikings have settled permanently in Britain.

AD 886



King Alfred makes a deal with the Vikings, giving them the east (Danelaw) and keeping the west.

AD 900



The Vikings establish rule over Scotland.

AD 1013



King Sven of Denmark arrives with his son, Cnut to become King of Danelaw. The Saxon King, Ethelred, flees the country.

AD 1014



King Sven, King Ethelred and Ethelred's first son Edmund Ironside die. Cnut becomes King of England.

AD 1042



King Ethelred's second son, Edward the Confessor is invited to become King of England.

AD 1066



The last Anglo-Saxon king, King Harold is defeated in the Battle of Hastings.