

Anglo Saxons, Scots and Vikings

After the last of the Romans left, by around 410AD, Britons were left to defend themselves from invaders who had an eye on the fertile lands of Briton.

Who were the Scots, Saxons and Vikings? What was the significance of the Scots, Saxons and Vikings?

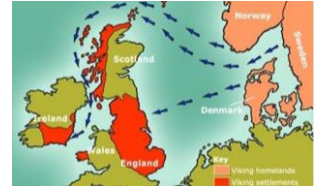
Who were the Scots and Picts?

- The Pict and the Scotti were very different.
- The Scots were thought to be from modern Ireland,
- Scots took land in the North (now Scotland) and split it up.
- Without Romans defending Hadrian's Wall, the Picts and Scots were always trying to invade.



Who were the Vikings?

- Travelled from Scandinavia (Norway, Sweden and Denmark) by longboat.
- Raiders and Traders, they eventually settled and their main settlement was Jorvik (modern day York).
- Also called Norsemen or Danes.



Who were the Anglo Saxons?

- Mix of tribes from Germany, Denmark and the Netherlands.
- England was split up into different tribes.

Why did they invade?

- To farm** Their homelands often flooded and they needed better land to survive
- To fight** Some thought Britons was weak and easy to beat after Romans had left.
- To make homes** They came in families with tools, weapons, animals and built villages with new homes
- They were invited** Britons need protection from Scots and Picts so asked for help but Saxons stayed and took over.



Although originally pagan, Anglo-Saxons were known for converting to Christianity and establishing this as the religion of England.

Sutton Hoo

- 27 metre ship discovered in 1939 in Sutton Hoo in Suffolk.
- Significant burial site of an Anglo Saxon King
- Transformed beliefs about the people who buried it and how they lived.
- Primary sources discovered.



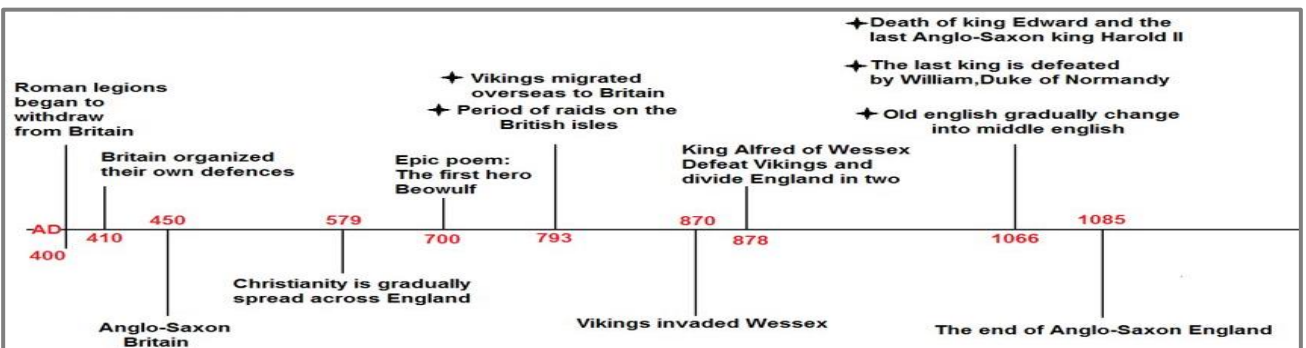
Alfred the Great

- Saxon king of Wessex from AD871 to AD899. History has given him the title of 'The Great'
 - He made laws.
 - He set up the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle.
 - He built forts and walled towns known as 'burhs' to keep the Vikings out.
 - He built warships to guard the coast.
 - He organised his army into two parts.
 - He signed a treaty with the Vikings giving them control of Danelaw – creating peace for a short while.
- His greatest desire was to build a united England and was grandfather to Æthelstan who was widely known and the first "King of All England"



Key Vocabulary

- Settlements** – places people lived in for a long period.
- Pagan** – Religions beliefs that are different to the main world religions
- Raider** – A person who attacks people in their own territories
- Trade** – Buying or selling or exchanging goods
- Monastery** – A building occupied by religious monks
- Archaeology**- The study of human history by digging up and excavating historical sites.
- Artefact** – An important object made by a person.
- Invasion** – Invading a place with armed people
- Significance** – How important something is.



Anglo Saxons, Scots and Vikings

After the Scots, Picts, Saxons and Vikings invaded, what was life like for those who lived in Anglo Saxon / Viking Britain? What was the long term effects of their presence?

How does the Governance of the Vikings and Saxons still affect us today? In what way was Britain united at this time?

Government

Anglo-Saxon/Viking Britain wasn't ruled by one person. When they first ruled, there were seven kingdoms – Northumbria, Wessex, Mercia, East Anglia, Essex, Kent and Sussex.



Saxon Rule

- Ruled by kings
- Alfred begun to write laws down.
- Law breaker would be tried by a court and a jury would decide the punishment
- A Witan made of bishops and thanes would be used to advise the king



Viking Rule

- Ruled by kings/chieftains
- No written laws
- Law breakers would be judged by a "thing" if guilty they would be outlawed.
- There was a council of leaders but all free men could vote.



More Famous Kings

ATHELSTAN

- 924 – 939
- Athelstan defeated a combined army of Scots, Celts, Danes (Vikings), claiming the title of the first King of all Britain.



CANUTE (CNUT THE GREAT)

- 1016 – 1035
- Canute became king of all England following the death of Edmund II.
- He ruled well, but left much of the government in England to noblemen, now called earls (from the Danish word "jarl").



WILLIAM I (The Conqueror)

- 1066- 1087
- William came to England from Normandy, claiming that his second cousin Edward the Confessor had promised him the throne,
- Defeated Harold II at the Battle of Hastings on 14th October 1066 and became the First **true** King of England.



What was life like?

Everyday life changed due to raids and settling of Vikings. As they became more established, they developed further their society and roles and governance. Religion changed, trade changed and rulers and laws changed.

What happened next in Britain ?

Norman Britain 1066-1154

Middle Ages 1154- 1485

Tudor Age 1487-1603

Civil War! 1603- 1714

Year 5 learning

What happened elsewhere?

The Roman Empire continued to break apart, forming the New Roman Empire (Eastern and Western Empires). The crusades began in order to aid the **Byzantine Empire regain the Holy Land.** **Year 5 learning.**

Key Vocabulary

Consequence – the result of an action

Conquest – land or people taken in war

Governance – how people are ruled

Primary source – first hand account of an event or someone, diaries, artefacts, physical evidence.

Secondary – second hand account of an event or someone, books, reports or articles.

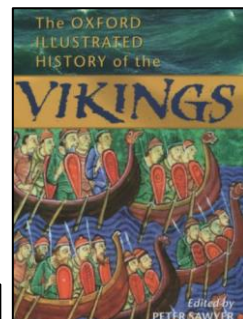
Sources - things that tell us about history

Think about everything the Saxons and Vikings still impact today: courts, jury, laws, voting, witnesses and a united England. **How does this compare to everything the Romans did?**

Who do you think had the bigger impact?



Primary sources



Secondary sources