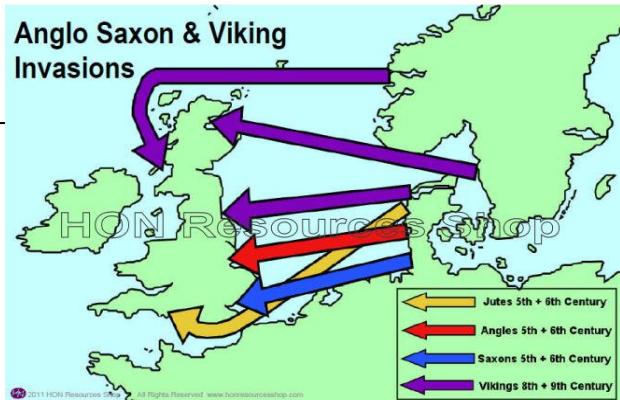


Invasion!

The Romans left Britain in AD 410 because their empire had grown too large for the Roman legions to be able to protect. Then tribes from Scotland and Ireland invaded England. **Anglo-Saxon settlers were then followed by the Vikings who began invading from Scandinavia in the 8th century. These tribes were fierce fighters with swords, daggers and shields and helmets.**



Houses and everyday life

The stone and brick buildings of the Romans were allowed to fall down and the Anglo Saxons built houses and farms out of wood and thatch. Later, Vikings also built larger halls out of wood.



Villagers had jobs such as ploughing, growing crops, milling flour and cooking. There were also metal workers, blacksmiths, tanners (who made things out of leather), weavers, woodworkers and potters.

Religion

Anglo Saxons and Vikings worshipped several gods, for example, Thodin/Odin (Chief god); Frige/Frigg (home); Thunor/Thor (thunder); Freyo/Freye (love); Eostra/Astra (spring); Tiw/Tyr (war); Bealdor/Baldr (light). Festivals for these gods were held throughout the year and some of our days of the week are named after them. However, many Anglo-Saxons and Vikings converted to Christianity, partly due to the influence of missionaries such as Saint Augustine. Churches and monasteries were built.

Anglo Saxons and Vikings

Year 4 Knowledge Organizer

Key vocabulary

Anglo Saxons – Tribes of Angles, Saxons and Jutes who came from Denmark and Germany in the 5th– 6th century AD.

Vikings – Tribes from Norway, Sweden and Denmark who invaded Britain in the 8th and 9th century AD.

Invoke – To forcibly enter and take over a country

Settle – To set up home permanently in a country

Kingdom – area ruled by a king

Primary source – original document, material or account not changed in any way

Secondary source - document or recording that writes or speaks about information that is one step removed from the original source

Raid – to attack and steal

Pagan – ancient beliefs held before organised religion – often involved worship of many gods.

Christian – religious belief in one God and Jesus as God's son, dating from around 30AD.

Boats Anglo Saxons and Vikings invaded using wooden boats with sails and oarsmen. Viking Longboats were up to 23 metres long.



When important people died, their bodies were sometimes put in a boat and either buried or put on water and burnt.

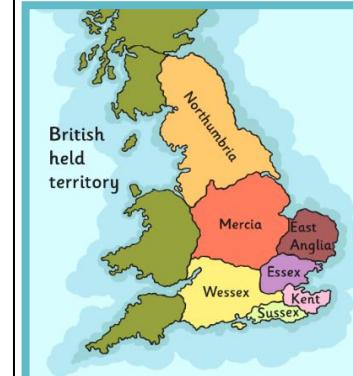
Crafts and skills

Archaeological discoveries, such as that at Sutton Hoo discovered in 1939, have shown that Anglo Saxons and Vikings were very skilled craftsmen and had religious and social customs, used coins and weapons and played games.



Kings and Kingdoms

The Anglo Saxons divided the country into Kingdoms. When the Vikings invaded, Alfred the Great (848 – 899) united some of the Anglo-Saxon kingdoms and allowed the Vikings to rule the East-North of England ('Danelaw'). They set up systems of government and law.



King Alfred the Great was the only king known as 'great' for his achievements in Anglo-Saxon England in the 9th Century AD. King Athelstan (894-939) united the country further and is considered the first true King of England.

Language and place names:

Anglo Saxons and Vikings brought their own languages to Britain. They were able to write using symbols called 'runes'. Stories (sagas) and poems called 'kennings' were written. Many towns still have Anglo Saxon names, for example those ending in 'bury' (fortified place); 'ham' (village). Similarly, Viking place names may include 'kirk' (church) or 'dale' (valley).