

The Vikings

793 A.D	865 A.D	866 A.D	871 A.D	886 A.D	878 A.D	954 A.D.	1014 A.D	1042 A.D.	1066 A.D.
The Vikings attack the island of Lindisfarne	The Great Viking Army invades England.	The Vikings capture Eoferwic (York)	Alfred the Great becomes King of Wessex.	King Alfred agrees to divide England.	The Vikings settle permanently in England	Eric Bloodaxe, the Viking King of Jorvik, is defeated.	King Cnut Of Denmark becomes King of England.	Edward the Confessor is invited to return from Normandy to become King of England	The Battle of Hastings. Beginning of Norman Rule.

Key Vocabulary

Invader	A person or group that invades a country, region or another place.
Settler	A person who moves with a group of others to live in a new country.
Scandinavia	Scandinavia is a group of countries in Northern Europe that includes Denmark, Norway, Sweden and Finland.
Norse	The Norwegian language, especially in an ancient or medieval form.
Jarl	A jarl was a hereditary ruler of land. They had freemen who swore to work for them and go into battle with them if needed.
Runes	Vikings had their own system of writing, called Runes. They did not have books but carved the runes onto metal, stone, rock or wood.
Danelaw	A historical name given to the part of England in which the laws of the Danes held sway and dominated those of the Anglo-Saxons.
Longship	A long, narrow warship, powered by both oar and sail with many rowers, used by Vikings to travel the seas.
Pagan	A person holding religious beliefs other than those of the main world religions.

General Knowledge

The Vikings











The Vikings were fierce warriors from **Scandinavia**, an area in Northern Europe. They were the most powerful in the years 790-1100. The Vikings were skilled ship builders and their **longships** travelled all around the coasts of Europe and even to the Americas. Some of the journeys were violent raids, where gangs of warriors would attack towns and villages along the coast or by rivers. They would kill anyone who fought them, and carry off treasure and slaves. Other voyages were peaceful, as the **Vikings** explored new lands to live and trade in. When the people of Britain first saw the Viking **Longships** they came down to the shore to welcome them. However, the Vikings fought the local people, stealing from churches and burning buildings to the ground. The people of Britain called the invaders '**Danes**', but they came from Norway and Sweden as well as Denmark.

Key facts about the Vikings and that period of time

- ◆ The name 'Viking' means 'a pirate raid' in the old Norse language.
- ◆ When important Vikings died, they would be placed with all their clothes, jewellery, even their animals, in a burial ship. This would either be covered with a huge mound of earth, or set alight and pushed out to sea.
- ◆ Vikings ate a lot of fish, this was difficult during the cold Scandinavian winters when the waters were frozen.
- ◆ After winning a great victory Vikings liked to celebrate. Kings and lords held feasts to reward their warriors, and they could continue for a week or more.

Famous Figures

Alfred the Great	King of Wessex 886—899. Protected the Anglo-Saxon kingdom of Wessex against the Danes.
Harold Godwinson	Harold Godwinson, often called Harold II was the last crowned Anglo-Saxon King of England. Harold reigned from 6th January 1066 until his death at the Battle of Hastings.
Eric Bloodaxe	Eric Haraldson, or Eric Bloodaxe, was a 10th Century ruler. It is widely thought that he had short-lived terms as King of Norway and was twice King of Northumbria.
Edward the Confessor	The son of Ethelred II. He became king in 1042 and much of his reign was peaceful and prosperous. He died in 1066.
William the Conqueror	William I, is usually known as William the Conqueror. He was the first Norman king of England (1066—1087).
Thor, Odin and Freya	These three were some of the Gods that the Vikings worshipped.

Jurassic Period 200 million years ago 	Stone Age– Iron Age (13,300 BC—43 AD) 	Ancient Egypt (3,100 BC—30 BC) 	Ancient Greece (3,000 BC—146 BC) 	Roman Britain (753 BC– 410 AD) 	Anglo-Saxons & Vikings (410 AD– 1066 AD) 	Medieval Period (1066 AD—1485 AD) 	Tudor Britain (1485 AD— 1603 AD) 	Victorians (1837—1901) 	World War 2 (1939—1945) 
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