

Curriculum Intent:

History Children will gain clear knowledge and understanding of Britain's past and that of the wider world, exploring significant events in history as well as acknowledging how these have impacted on society today.



Subject	Term	Unit	Year
History	Spring 2	Vikings	Year 5

Prior knowledge Building on knowledge and skills	National Curriculum Focus
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stone Age to Iron Age Ancient Egyptians The Mayans The Romans 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pupils should continue to develop a chronologically secure knowledge and understanding of British, local and world history, establishing clear narratives within and across the periods they study. They should note connections, contrasts and trends over time and develop the appropriate use of historical terms. The Viking and Anglo-Saxon struggle for the Kingdom of England to the time of Edward the Confessor.

What?	Who were the Vikings, why did they invade other countries and what impact have they had on British history?
Why?	Understanding the reasons behind the Viking invasion and settlement will embed a deeper understanding of world and British history. To understand how the Vikings helped to shaped modern-day Britain and the impact they had on other civilisations.
How?	Through a range discussions, drama, a wide range of sources, including artefacts and tools.

Key vocabulary			
Viking	Scandinavian Sea Pirates who ravaged the coast of Europe, eventually settling in many places	Chieftom	An area that is ruled by a chief instead of a king.
Paganism	A belief in many Gods-people who practise paganism are called pagans	Burh	A defensive site built to protect land from raiders.
Jorvik	The Viking name for York (North East England) and the	Plunder	To take valuables and possessions during a raid,

	most important city in the Danelaw.		often causing damage at the same time
Settlement	Either a place where people live or the act of people 'settling' down and living in an area.	Norsemen	Another name given to Vikings.
Scandinavia	Norway, Sweden and Denmark.	Confessor	Short form of Confessor of the faith: a title given by the church to a type of saint.
Danegeld	The ransom money paid to the Vikings by English rulers to prevent raids into their kingdom.	Danelaw	The North and Eastern areas of England given to the Vikings and ruled by them from 886.
Dispute	An argument or disagreement between two or more people, groups or countries.	Norman Conquest	William the Conqueror's successful invasion of England by defeating King Harold at the Battle of Hastings in 1066.
Treaty	An agreement made between two or more people, groups or countries.		

Key Questions

1. Who were the Vikings and why did they choose to invade and settle in Britain?

2. How did the Vikings invade?

3. Why did the Vikings attack Lindisfarne monastery?

4. How did Danegeld change the balance of power in England? Do you think the introduction of danegeld was a good idea?

5. Who was Alfred The Great and why was he important?

6. How did Alfred the Great ensure peace between the Saxons and Vikings?

7. Why was Edward the Confessor's death such a defining moment in British history?

Key learning: (Specific link to the NC here)

Objective	Learning
<p>Who were the Vikings and why did they choose to invade and settle in Britain?</p> <p>Can I explain who the Vikings were and why they invaded England?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Viking age was from about AD700 to 1100. Many Vikings left their homes in Scandinavia and travelled by longboat to other countries, like Britain and Ireland in search of fertile land. • In eastern England, the Vikings discovered a milder climate and a rich agricultural landscape. • Faced with a lack of good farming land in Denmark, many families decided to try their luck on the other side of the North Sea. • The name 'Viking' comes from a language called 'Old Norse'. It means 'a pirate raid'. • Some came to fight, but others came peacefully, to settle on the land. They were farmers, kept animals and grew crops. They were skilful at crafting and made beautiful metalwork and wooden carvings. • The people of Britain called the Viking invaders 'Danes', but they came from Norway and Sweden as well as Denmark.
<p>How did the Vikings invade?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vikings - well known for their ability to travel long distances to gather a fortune and search for better land to settle on. Vikings travelled on vessels called Longships (sometimes called Longboats or Dragon Boats) DRAKKAR • The Vikings used longships for trading, exploring and raiding.

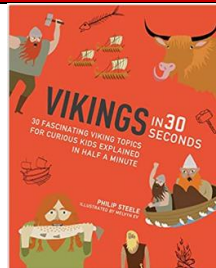
<p>Can I explain the importance of the Drakkar?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Longships were narrow and light making them quick to manoeuvre through water. They could even be carried by Vikings over land, allowing them to sneak up on an enemy be approaching from a different direction. • Longships were built in a 'clinker' style. Wooden planks, usually oak, were overlapped and then nailed together. Any gaps would be filled with tarred wool and handfuls of animal hair, just to make sure the Longship wouldn't leak. • They had a single sail in the centre of the boat, often shown striped in red and white. Sails were made from wool or linen and then dyed red. Some archaeologists believe that Longship sails came in many different colours, Vikings were known for liking bright colours. • In situations of low wind, the crew would row the boat using the oars. Different styles of Longships would have different amounts of oars. For example, the Snekke longboat had space for 18 pairs of oarsmen, whilst the Busse had 34. • Vikings steered their ship left or right (or port and starboard) using a steering oar at the rear of the Longship. • Longships had a shallow hull so they could sail in any type of water such as oceans or rivers. Because of this shallow draft Longships could sail on water as shallow as 1 metre. They could also perform beach landings, allowing the Vikings to slide up onto the sand and leap ashore. • Longships had a dragon's head at the front of the boat to intimidate enemies. This dragon head was also said to scare off evil spirits, ensuring a safe voyage. • Vikings would hang their shields on the side of the boat to protect the hull and save space aboard the deck.
<p>Where did the Vikings raid and why?</p> <p>Can I explain where the raids began and why?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 793 AD Three Viking ships raid Lindisfarne, a monastery on the Northumbria coast in the Northeast of England. They take treasure from Lindisfarne. • The church of St Cuthbert in Lindisfarne was raided for its portable wealth. The Vikings attacked the monastery as it was close to the coastline and churches were well-known for their riches. • They stole gold and silver, as well as people to sell into the slavery market. • Lindisfarne was considered to be the place where Christianity began in the Saxon nation. The attack of the Vikings, with their beliefs in Paganism, created uproar between the Saxons and Vikings.
<p>How did Danegeld change the balance of power in England?</p> <p>Can I explain the importance of Danegeld?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Danegeld ("Dane gold") was an English tribute raised to pay off Viking raiders to save the land from being ravaged. The expeditions were usually led by the Danish kings, but they were composed by warriors from all over Scandinavia, and they eventually brought home more than 100 tons of silver. • The Anglo-Saxon kings of England famously collected hundreds of thousands of pounds of silver in tribute to pay off the Danes. • The power then shifted from the Saxons to the Vikings as they had intimidated the Saxons into paying for them not to attack. • First paid in the reign of King Aethelred II and was raised by taxation. Danegeld was paid on a number of occasions – usually in silver. The payment in 991 consisted of 20000 pounds of silver.
<p>In what ways did Alfred the Great and Athelstan resist?</p> <p>Can I describe the importance of Alfred the Great?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alfred became king in AD871. • During his reign he was advised by a council of nobles and church leaders. This council was called the Witan. • Alfred made good laws and believed education was important. He had books translated from Latin into English, so people could read them. He also told monks to begin writing the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle. • To help protect his kingdom from Viking attacks, Alfred built forts and walled towns known as 'burhs'. • He also built warships to guard the coast from raiders and organised his army into two parts. While half the men were at home on their farms, the rest were ready to fight Vikings. • In 882, Alfred fought a small sea battle against four Danish ships. Two of the ships were destroyed, and the others surrendered. This was one of four sea battles recorded in the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle, three of which involved Alfred. • Athelstan was Alfred the Great's grandson. He reigned between AD925 and AD939 and was the very first 'King of all England'.

<p>How did Alfred the Great ensure peace between the Saxons and Vikings?</p> <p>Can I understand how peace was established between Saxons and Vikings?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alfred the Great fought and won many battles against the Vikings, but he was never able to push the Vikings out of England. After many years of fighting, Alfred and the Viking King, Guthrum, eventually formed a kind of peace agreement. England was to be divided with an imaginary line running from Chester in the North-West to London in the South East. The two parties agreed that the Anglo-Saxons would live South-East of the line and the Vikings would live North-West of it. The area where the Vikings resided, North-West of the divide, was called the Danelaw. The people who lived in this area were ruled by the laws of the Danes (the Vikings) - hence the name "Danelaw". The Vikings settled and began farming the land. There were three main areas to the Danelaw; Northumbria (which included Yorkshire), East Anglia and the Five Boroughs ("Boroughs" was the Viking name for fortified towns - these five towns were Leicester, Nottingham, Derby, Stamford and Lincoln). The city of Jorvik (or York as it is known today) was the most important city and a centre for trade.
<p>Can I explain why was Edward the Confessor's death such a defining moment in British history?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Edward the Confessor was the eldest son of King Athelstan. Edward the Confessor died childless on 5th January 1066, leaving no direct heir to the throne. This sparked a battle between the 4 people who thought they had a legitimate right to be on the throne: Harold Godwinson, William Duke of Normandy, Harald Hadrada and Edgar Atheling.

Websites

- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zxsbcdm/articles/z9tdq6f>
- <https://www.english-heritage.org.uk/visit/places/lindisfarne-priory/History/viking-raid/>

Recommended Reads



Golden Thread

How individuals/events in history have changed our national and personal lives, both locally and nationally.

Experience Day (Trip / visitor)

Time Zone – Viking focus day to launch the topic