

Key Facts

- The Anglo-Saxons came from what is now Denmark, Germany and Holland.
- The name comes from the two biggest invading tribes were the Angles and the Saxons.
- Different groups set up different kingdoms — Saxons in Wessex, Essex etc. & Angles in East Anglia, for instance. There was also Northumbria & Mercia to the north & the midlands. Anglo-Saxons did not penetrate the western parts, such as Cornwall, where Celtic people continued to live, speaking their own language.
- The name England comes from Land of the Angles.
- The language spoken by the new arrivals became known as Old English & forms the basis modern English.
- Christianity spread in England during the Anglo-Saxon period.
- They were farmers & preferred to live in the countryside than towns.
- The Anglo-Saxon people were very superstitious. They believed in good and bad omens, lucky charms, spells and magic as they thought that these things could influence what happened in different aspects of their lives.
- There were many festivals throughout the year where Anglo Saxons made sacrifices to their Gods.



History

Year 4

Autumn 1

Anglo Saxons



Vocabulary

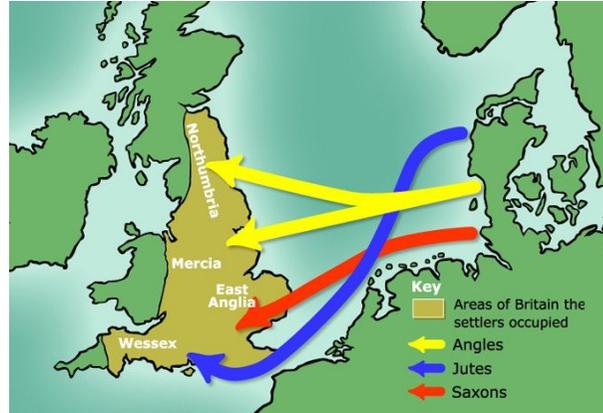
Word	Definition
Hoard	Items buried and left, possibly for safekeeping.
Invade	To enter as an enemy, by force, in order to conquer or plunder.
Monastery	Christian community of monks, living religious lives.
Pagan	A person holding religious beliefs other than those of the main world religions. Someone who believes in many Gods.
Runes	The letters used in the Runic alphabet. This is how the Anglo Saxons wrote.
Settle	To live and take up residence.
Thane	After kings, the most powerful Anglo-Saxons were the thanes. A thane was in charge of a village.
Weregild	Wergild was a payment system used in Anglo-Saxon times to settle disputes between the criminal and the victim or the victim's family.

459 AD	597 AD	600 AD	793 AD	827 AD	871 AD	924 AD	939 AD	1066 AD
Anglo-Saxon invaders arrive in Britain.	St Augustine comes to Britain to spread Christianity.	Anglo-Saxons gradually take over. The country is split into Northumbria, Mercia, East Anglia and Wessex.	Vikings attack from Norway. They attack the Monastery of Lindisfarne in Northumbria.	Egbert becomes the first king to establish stable rule over all of Anglo-Saxon England and so is often called the first King of England.	Alfred the Great becomes king of Wessex. He drives the invading Vikings from the south, but they stay in the north and east.	Athelstan (grandson of Alfred) conquers the last Viking kingdom, York, and becomes the first king of all England.	Athelstan dies and the Vikings invade England and take back the North.	King Harold is killed in the battle of Hastings End of Anglo-Saxon rule.

Knowledge and Understanding:

Children will learn:

- Who the Anglo-Saxons were and when and why they raided and invaded Britain
- What Anglo-Saxon settlements were like
- How Anglo-Saxons lived
- About Anglo-Saxon justice and law
- Where and what Sutton Hoo is
- Who Alfred the Great was and what he did
- How the Anglo-Saxons influenced modern Britain



Key Questions

- Why did the Anglo-Saxons invade Britain?
- What was life like in an Anglo-Saxon settlement?
- Who was Alfred the Great?
- How did the Anglo-Saxons change Britain?

Key People



Alfred the Great—Anglo-Saxon king of Wessex, who was famous for his victory against the Vikings.



St Augustine—Was sent to Britain in 595 to spread Christianity to the Anglo-Saxons. Became the first Archbishop of Canterbury.



Athelstan—Grandson of Alfred the Great. Conquered the last of the Viking kingdoms to unite England for the first time..

Key skills and concepts:

Children will be able to:

- To demonstrate that the past can be divided into periods
- To ask and answer questions about the past by using sources in ways that go beyond simple observations
- To communicate their learning, making appropriate use of specialist terms
- To compare the past and now
- To make a reasoned judgement about the validity of different representations of the past
- To select and combine information from sources
- To infer and deduce using a range of sources
- To give opinions and reasons