



History Year 5

Spring 1 - Vikings



Key Facts

- The Vikings are also called Norsemen, and came from Scandinavia.
- They spoke **Norse**, which had an alphabet made up of characters called runes.
- They travelled over the sea in longships, which are long, narrow wooden boats that could be sailed in both deep and shallow water.
- The Vikings left their homeland because they were looking for better places to farm than the kind of terrain that Scandinavia had.
- The Vikings first attacked Britain in 787 AD, but didn't start to invade and settle here until 793.
- In 878, **King Alfred the Great** defeated the Vikings in battle and had them sign a treaty saying they had to keep to their own land in England - this section of land was called Danelaw.
- England once had a Viking king - King Canute ruled from 1016-1035, and his descendants ruled until 1042.

Vocabulary

Word	Definition
Chieftain	The leader of a village or small group of people
Danelaw	The area of England ruled by the Vikings
Freeman	A person who is not a slave and free to choose who he or she worked for
Longship	A Viking ship with a sail and oars, also called a dragon-ship
Monastery	The building where monks live
Naval fleet	A large group of warships
Pagan	A person who believed in many gods
Runes	The name given to the Viking alphabet
Thatched	A roof covered in straw
Trader	person who sells goods
Raid	A rapid surprise attack on an enemy.

793	829	851	866—77	867	878	886	926	927	939	954
First Viking attack happens in Dorset Vikings attack the monastery of Lindisfarne	Wessex becomes the Supreme Kingdom	Athelstan, son of the king of Wessex, defeats a Viking fleet in battle	Invasion of the Great Danish (Viking) Army	The Vikings kill rival kings of Northumbria and capture York - The city becomes Jorvik, the Viking capital in England	Wessex is overrun by Vikings and King Alfred goes into hiding	England is divided - The Saxons retain the west, while the east was to be Viking territory where the English and Vikings were equal in law.	Eastern England is conquered by the Saxons	Athelstan, king of Wessex, takes York from the Vikings	Athelstan, first king of all England dies	Eric Bloodaxe, the last Viking king in England, is forced out of Jorvik (York)

Knowledge and Understanding:

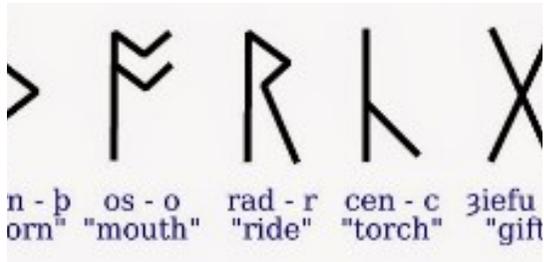
Children will learn:

- Where the Vikings came from.
- How and why the Vikings invaded Britain.
- How some kings in Britain dealt with the Viking invaders.
- How Vikings lived and worked.
- To understand what happened during the Viking invasions and know what Viking warriors were like.
- To identify and describe Viking artefacts.
- To know some Viking Gods and what they represent.

Key skills and concepts:

Children will be able to:

- Begin to identify primary and secondary resources
- Use evidence to build up a picture of a past event
- Select relevant information
- Compare account of events from different sources—fact or fiction
- Offer some reasons for different versions of events



Key Questions

- Who led Vikings into battle and how did it impact families?
- Why did Vikings visit other countries and how does this compare with other civilisations?
- How and why did Viking raids happen?
- What is the significance of the Viking Gods?
- Why did Vikings invade Britain?
- How do accounts of historical events vary?

