

What should I already know?

- Chronology of British history.
- Reasons why people invaded and settled in Britain – Romans and Anglo-Saxons.
- Anglo-Saxon kingdoms.
- St Aiden’s conversion of the Anglo-Saxons to Christianity at Lindisfarne.
- Hierarchy of society.

What will I find out by the end of the unit?

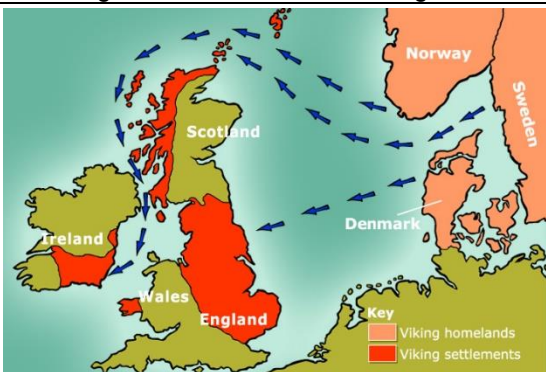
- First recorded raid by Vikings was 787AD
Raided churches and monasteries.
The monks had no weapons and the buildings were filled with valuable treasures, like gold, jewels and books. Raided the monastery in Lindisfarne set up by St. Aidan.
- In AD865 an army of Vikings sailed across the North Sea to conquer land rather than just raid it.
- Over several years the army battled through northern England, taking control of the Anglo-Saxon kingdoms of Northumbria, East Anglia and most of Mercia.
- By AD 875 most kingdoms had fallen except for Wessex which was ruled by King Alfred the Great.
- Alfred made a peace agreement with the Vikings called ‘Danelaw’.
- Danelaw was an imaginary dividing line was agreed to run across England, from London in the south towards Chester in the North West. The Anglo-Saxon lands were to the west and the Viking lands were roughly to the east.
- Viking families lived in a longhouse made from wood with a thatched roof. Many were farmers or craftsmen.
- Vikings had a hierarchical society:
King – most powerful person.
Jarl – wealthy Vikings who were rich noblemen or traders.
Karl – everyday people.
Thrall – slaves and did the hardest dirtiest jobs but could earn money to buy their freedom.

Vocabulary

settlement	a place where a group of people create a community
invader	people who attack a country
settler	people who moves with a group to a new country
hierarchy	a way of organising people into levels of importance
Danegeld	money given by Ethelred the Unready to the Vikings to stop them from invading
monasteries	building occupied by a community of monks living under religious vows

Historical skills and enquiry

- Chronology of the Anglo-Saxon – Viking struggle for power.
- Investigation – were the Vikings really that vicious?
- Investigate – was Alfred the Great really so great?
- Investigate: how effective was Anglo-Saxon law?



How great was Alfred the Great?

