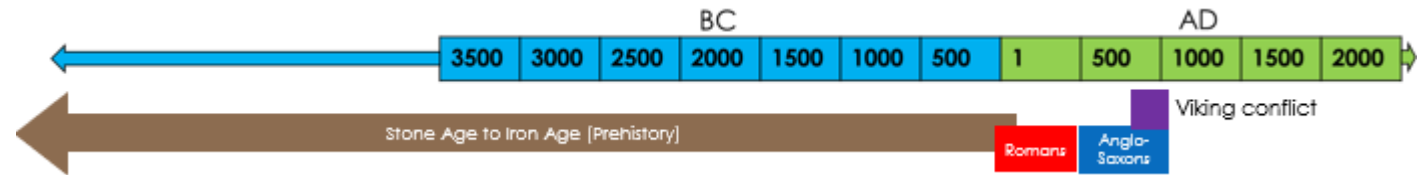


Year 5 & 6 History – Invaders and Settlers Knowledge Organiser

Key Vocabulary

- AD:** AD is used to show dates after the birth of Jesus.
- Conquer:** to get/gain by force; to win by fighting.
- Danegeld:** tax paid to invaders to stop them attacking.
- Danelaw:** the area in Britain where it was agreed Vikings could settle.
- Invasion:** to try and take over another place by force.
- Kingdom:** area ruled by a King.
- Monastery:** a house for people with religious vows (monks)
- Raid:** a sudden armed attack against a place.
- Settlers:** people who migrate to a new place and build a new community (settlement).
- Valhalla:** a place in the afterlife where heroes would feast with the gods.



The struggle between the Anglo-Saxons and the Vikings

After the Romans left Britain, Anglo-Saxon invaders began arriving from an area that is now North Germany, Denmark and the Netherlands. They started to settle, forming different kingdoms across England. Kings and their armies constantly fought to control other kingdoms and defend their land. Then the Vikings arrived in Britain. The first raid in Lindisfarne marked the start of a long struggle between the Anglo-Saxons and the Vikings for the Kingdom of England.

What did the Anglo-Saxons believe?

When the Anglo-Saxons first came to Britain, they had their own gods and beliefs. However, over time they converted to Christianity and new churches and monasteries were built. Religion was very important to them and monasteries were the centre of learning. Monks lived peaceful lives, praying and working.



This map shows the seven kingdoms that were ruled by the Anglo-Saxons.

Who were the Vikings?

The Vikings arrived at the shores of Britain in longboats and fought the local people, raided monasteries and burned buildings to take over land. Their beliefs were extremely different to Anglo-Saxons. Their mythology glorified battles and they believed that dying in battle was an honour that would grant them access to Valhalla.

Kings and Conflict

The Anglo-Saxons started with seven kingdoms, but by 878 AD, all but one of them (Wessex) had been overrun by Vikings. That kingdom was ruled by Alfred the Great. He fought the Vikings and his rule led to the creation of the Danelaw. A succession of kings followed, with several events which eventually led to the Battle of Hastings in 1066 AD.

450 AD	600	633	793	867-878	871	886	1014	1042	1066 AD
Anglo-Saxon invaders arrive in Britain.	Anglo-Saxons gradually take over Britain.	Lindisfarne monastery built.	The Vikings raid Lindisfarne and capture the city of York.	A series of Viking victories.	Alfred the Great becomes King of Wessex.	King Alfred and the Vikings divide England. The Danelaw is established.	King Cnut of Denmark becomes King of England.	Edward the Confessor becomes King of England.	The Battle of Hastings happens. The Norman army win, marking a new period in history.