



Were the Vikings really victorious?

HISTORY
Year 4
Summer Term

Overview

The Viking age in European history was from about 700 to 1100 AD. During this period many Vikings left their homelands in Scandinavia and travelled by longboat to other countries, like Britain and Ireland.

When the people of Britain first saw the Viking longboats they came down to the shore to welcome them. However, the Vikings fought the local people, stealing from churches and burning buildings to the ground. In this unit, we will learn about the raids and invasions by Vikings in Anglo-Saxon Britain.



Knowledge & Understanding

In this unit, the pupils will:

- Demonstrate more in-depth knowledge of one specific civilisation.
- Recognise why some events happened and what happened as a result.
- Explore links and contrasts within and across different periods of time.
- Describe and compare some of the characteristic features and achievements of the earliest civilisations including where and when they appeared.

History skills

In this unit, the pupils will:

- Use primary and secondary sources to address historically valid questions and hypotheses.
- Recognise how sources of evidence are used to make historical claims.
- Use dates and historical terms when ordering events and objects.
- Identify where people and events fit into a chronological framework.

Home – school link project

During this topic, pupils can choose to:

- Design a symmetrical Viking shield or helmet.
- Write a fact file about a Viking god or goddess.
- Write a secret message in Viking runes.
- Research what the Vikings used to eat and drink.

Topic Vocabulary

archaeologist - a person who studies the history of humans by looking at what man-made objects were left behind

carving - an object or design carved from a hard material

explorer - a person who explores a new or unfamiliar area

invade - to enter a place in order to take control by military force

longship - seagoing vessels made and used for trade, exploring, and raiding

raid - a surprise attack on an enemy by soldiers or other military forces.

runes - the Viking's own system of writing

Scandinavia - the countries of Denmark, Norway, Sweden and sometimes also Iceland and Finland

settlers - a person who goes to live in a new place where usually there are few or no people

Vikings - warriors from northern Europe, they were also known as Norsemen or Northmen.

Working Historically

AD (Anno Domini) - after Jesus was born

ancient - belonging to times that were long ago

artefact - an object made by a human being, typically of historical interest

BC (Before Christ) - before Jesus was born

century - a 100-year- long period of time

chronology - in time order

historical evidence - a piece of information that can help us understand the past

source (primary/secondary) - a book, document or object used to provide historical evidence in research