

Colney Heath School ~ History

Topic: Anglo-Saxons and Vikings

Year: 5

Civilisation : the effect of invasion on Britain

What should I already know?

- During the Stone Age and Iron Age, people lived in different types of shelters, they started to farm the land and grow crops. England was invaded by the Romans in the first century. They built towns, including St Albans (Verulamium) and roads and settled in these towns for several hundred years.

People

King Alfred The Great	Most famous Saxon king.
King Harold Godwinson	The last Saxon King of England until the Battle of Hastings
Hengest and Horsa	Saxon brothers who were invited to Britain to defend it. In exchange they were given the land we now call Kent.
Jorvik	The Viking city we now call York, in the North of England.
Vortigern	British chief who invited Saxons to Britain
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Diagrams



The Vikings travelled in Longships.



Vocabulary

burg	Saxon word for a town – settlement surrounded by wooden fence.
conflict	Serious disagreement between people or countries, over time
Danelaw	The Northern part of England where the Vikings ruled – the Danes' laws were in charge here.
Invasion	To go to another country and take over when you are not welcome.
pagan	Religion believing in many gods e.g Vikings had several gods
monarch	Queen or King
settle	To live somewhere, build homes, grow crops etc.
treaty	Agreement between two nations or tribes

Timeline

By the end of our project we will know that

410. The Roman army withdraws from Britain	516. Battle of Mount Badon. The Britons fight back against the invaders, possibly led by King Arthur.	731. Bede finishes his 'Ecclesiastical History of the English People'	866. The Vikings capture York and make it their kingdom	886. King Alfred defeats the Vikings but allows them to settle in north & eastern Britain - the Danelaw.	1066. Harold of Wessex becomes King, but later that year Normans attack and win the Battle of Hastings.
450. Angles, Jutes and Saxons are settling in Britain and creating their own Kingdoms.	597. St Augustine brings Christianity to England from Rome	793. Vikings from Denmark attack Lindisfarne	871 Alfred (the Great) becomes King of Wessex	927. King Alfred's grandson Aethelstan wins the Battle of Brunanburh and becomes the first King of all England.	1016. King Cnut of Denmark captures the English crown

In the fifth century, the Romans left Britain. Many different people wanted to invade or raid Britain because it had good land and resources. The Britons invited two Saxon brothers – Hengest and Horsa - to help defend them against invaders including the Vikings. In return they offered them land, and Saxons came to settle part of Britain. Vikings also came to Britain to trade and invade. Over time, many of them also settled, mainly in the North of Britain. Both groups of people brought their language, customs and way of life to Britain. During this time, many people became Christians. The last Saxon king was Harold; he died at the Battle of Hastings in 1066.