

Vikings: KS2 Knowledge Mat

Subject Specific Vocabulary	
archaeologist	People who discover our history by looking at artefacts that have been found.
raids	A sudden armed attack with the aim of causing damage rather than occupying any of the enemy's land.
vicious	To be intentionally harmful or nasty. Vikings warriors were known to be vicious.
longhouse	A large hall-like building where many Viking families would live together.
berserkers	Warriors that went to war wearing wolf or bear skins. They were out of control and charged fearlessly. The word 'berserk' came from it.
longship	The narrow boat used by Vikings to raid along coasts.
Odin	One of the most famous Viking Gods known for wisdom.
Scandinavia	The name given to a collection of countries: Denmark, Norway and Sweden.
Danelaw	The name given to lands in Britain occupied by the Vikings.
invade	Enter and occupy land
Pillaged	To violently steal something.
Saga	Vikings used rhyme to tell stories about adventures.



Sticky Knowledge about the Vikings

- Not all Vikings were warriors. Many came in peace and become farmers.
- The lands that the Vikings occupied were known as Danelaw.
- No Vikings wore horns in their helmets.
- Vikings spoke Norse, which had an alphabet made up of runes.
- Longships were designed to sail in both deep and shallow water so that they could get close to the shore and sail in rivers to get inland.
- Vikings were pagans and often raided monasteries, looting gold.
- The most important Viking British city was York, or Jorvik as it was known by the Vikings.

Exciting Books



Days of the week

The names for most of the days of the week originate from Vikings.

Monday – linked to the moon by the name Mani – Norse for Moon.

Tuesday named after the Viking God of War – Tyr.

Wednesday – named after Odin and known as Woden's Day.

Thursday – named after Thor, the God of thunder.



Anglo-Saxon: KS2 Knowledge Mat

Subject Specific Vocabulary	
archaeologist	People who discover our history by looking at artefacts that have been found.
Anglo-Saxon kingdoms	The Anglo-Saxons formed many regions each with one ruler, known as kingdoms.
kingdom	Area ruled by a King
Settlement	People establish a
thane	An important Anglo-Saxon person.
legacy	Anglo-Saxons left a legacy which included the language we speak, culture and politics. Many of the shires are our boundaries for counties today.
Wessex	Known today as Dorset, Hampshire, Somerset and Wiltshire.
Trade	Buying and selling goods (verb) A job with special skills
wergild	A fine imposed for stealing or killing.
churl	A lower-class Anglo-Saxon but better than a slave.
Mercia	Known today as East Anglia, Essex, Kent and Sussex.



Sticky Knowledge about the Anglo-Saxons

- The Anglo-Saxons were made up of three tribes: the Angles; Saxons; and Jutes.
- The name 'Angles' eventually became 'English' and their land, 'Angle-land', became 'England'.
- They came to Britain from across the North Sea in the middle of the 5th Century.
- For a long time, England was not one country. Anglo-Saxon kings ruled lots of small kingdoms across the land.
- The Anglo-Saxons were fierce people who fought many battles, including fighting each other.
- The Anglo-Saxon period ended when the Normans conquered Britain in 1066.

Anglo-Saxon Settlements

