



The Anglo Saxon and Viking Conflict

Enquiry question: Raiders and Settlers: Were they really vicious killers and thieves?

Timeline

793CE The Vikings raid Lindisfarne monastery.

851CE Athelstan defeated a Viking fleet, capturing 9 ships.

869CE The Vikings use Yorvik as a base and continue to conquer.

878CE The Vikings conquer the Kingdom of Wessex and King Alfred hides.

899CE Alfred's son, Edward, begins to take back control of England with the Wessex armies.

867CE A Viking army arrives to conquer, not just raid.

874CE The Vikings conquer the Kingdom of Mercia.

886CE Alfred the Great takes back London and creates Danelaw.

894-939CE Athelstan is the first English king. He took Yorvik back from the Vikings during his reign.

954CE Eric Bloodaxe is driven out of Yorvik and killed. He was the last Viking King in England.



Lindisfarne

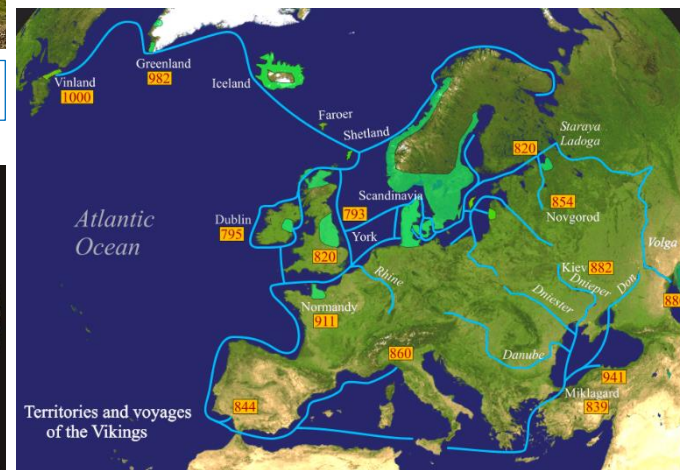


Viking Helmet

Key concepts:
Invaders
Lifestyle
Historical figures
Conflict
Progress and Change
Settlements and Civilisations

Who were the Vikings?

The Vikings were Norse people, who came from an area called Scandinavia (countries such as Norway, Sweden and Denmark). They sailed to many places around the world trading goods and bringing back items like silks, spices, wine and jewellery back to their homes.



Green areas show areas the Vikings settled, the blue lines represent the journeys they travelled.

Key Vocabulary

Vikings	A group of Norse people from Scandinavia
Scandinavia	The area made up of the countries Denmark, Sweden and Norway.
Raiders	People who enter a place illegally, and often, violently to steal.
Settlement	A place where people have come to live.
Longboat	A long, wooden ship used by Vikings for raids. It was designed to sail in both deep and shallow water on long voyages and close to shore.
Anglo-Saxons	The main group of people living in Britain when the Vikings invaded.
Kingdoms	England and the start of the Viking period was split into kingdoms, ruled by separate kings. These included: Mercia, East Anglia, Northumbria and Wessex.
Lindisfarne	This was one of the most important places in Anglo Saxon Britain. The Vikings raided it in 793.
Monastery	A building where people worship and devote their time to God.
Archaeology	The study of the past by examining remains of buildings, tools and other objects.
BCE	Before Common Era – alternatively known as BC
CE	Common Era – alternatively known as AD.

Viking Raids

The name 'Viking' comes from a language called 'Old Norse' and means 'a pirate raid.' They made surprise attacks on places like Lindisfarne. The Vikings were pagans, who believed in multiple gods, not Christians. They did not think twice about raiding and stealing from a monastery. Christian monasteries in Britain were easy targets for the Vikings because the monks had no weapons to defend themselves.



Settlers

Not all the Vikings were bloodthirsty warriors. Some came to fight, but others came peacefully, to settle. They were farmers, and kept animals and grew crops. They were skilful at crafting, and made beautiful metalwork and wooden carvings.

Alfred the Great

By 878CE, there was only 1 kingdom left, Wessex, which was ruled by Alfred the Great. The other Kingdoms had been conquered by the Vikings. After years of fighting, Alfred the Great and the Vikings made an agreement to share England (Danelaw).