



Year 3 & 4 Knowledge Organiser Vikings



Diagram – Viking Invasion

Diagram

The Vikings came from the Scandinavian countries of Norway, Sweden and Denmark. The time between 707AD and 1050AD is known as the time of the Vikings. Initially, they settled in northern Scotland and eastern England, also establishing the city of Dublin and Ireland. King Alfred, Saxon King of Wessex, fought them in a great battle, but he could not drive them right away and had to let them have part of the country called Danelaw.



Key Vocabulary

Danelaw	The area of England ruled by the Vikings. King Alfred the Great defeated the Vikings in 870 AD and had them sign a treaty. This governed that the Vikings had to stick to their land in the North and East of England – this section of land became known as Danelaw.
Monastery	The building or place where people who have dedicated their lives to religion such as monks or nuns live.
Norse Runes	The Vikings spoke in a language called Norse and had their own alphabet system made up of symbols called runes. The original system had 24 letters but was later expanded. Runes were regarded as sacred.
Longships	The Vikings had advanced sailing and navigational skills for the time. They were aided by their longboats, which were long, narrow wooden vessels. These could be sailed in both deep and shallow water.
Jorvik	The Vikings invaded York and renamed it Jorvik. Here a settlement was formed which reigned prosperously for over 100 years until Eric Bloodaxe was expelled in 954 AD.
Valhalla and Odin	Vikings believed that when they died in battle half of them would go to an enormous majestic hall called Valhalla. This is where the King of the God lived- Odin.
Scandinavia	The Vikings descended from all over Scandinavia (now Sweden, Norway, Finland and Denmark). The terrain of Scandinavia was not great for farming so Vikings left their homeland in search of more fertile lands.
Treaty	An agreement made between two or more people, groups or countries.

Key Figures

 <p>Aethelstan (son of King of Wessex) (839 AD- 852 AD) He was the King of Kent from 839 AD. In 851 AD he defeated a Viking fleet and army off the Kent coast.</p>	 <p>King Alfred the Great (849 AD – 899 AD) He defeated the Vikings in many battles. He made an agreement with the Vikings and made peace so that the English and Vikings settled down to live together</p>
 <p>Eric Bloodaxe (847 AD – 954 AD) Eric was the son of Norwegian King Harald Fairhair. He was a brutal ruler. He was King of Norway but then went to Britain and became ruler of Northumbria.</p>	 <p>King Canute (995 AD – 1035 AD) Viking King of England, Denmark and Norway. Canute invaded Britain in 1015 AD.</p>
 <p>Edward the Confessor (1042 AD – 1066 AD) He was the last King of the House of Wessex. He restored English rule to the house after rule of King Canute.</p>	 <p>William the Conqueror (1028 AD – 1087 AD) He became the King on England in 1066 and he also won The battle of Hastings in 1066. He was the first Norman King of England.</p>

Timeline

AD 793	AD 851	AD 865	AD 866	AD 886	AD 954	AD 1014	AD 1066	AD 1100
First invasion by the Vikings. They raided monasteries on the coast.	Aethelstan, son of King of Wessex, defeats a Viking fleet in battle.	Great Viking army from Denmark invaded England.	Danes Capture York (which the Vikings called Jorvik) and make it their Kingdom.	King Alfred the Great defeats the Vikings but allows them to stay in Eastern England.	Eric Bloodaxe, the last king of Jorvik, is thrown out of York.	King Canute (Cnut) of Denmark becomes King of England.	Battle of Hastings. William the Conqueror is crowned King of England.	End of Viking age.