

# Traders and Raiders



These activities are for you to do at home with an adult. You can do all of them or choose the ones that you find most interesting.

## Activities

1. Write definitions for the topic-related words listed to create a glossary.

- afterlife
- Christianity
- chronicle
- exploration
- heathens
- invasion
- kingdom
- monk
- raid
- resistance
- settle
- settlement
- trade
- warfare

2. Use information books and online sources to help you answer the following enquiry questions.

- Who were the Anglo-Saxons and Vikings?
- Why did they come to Britain?
- What was the Anglo-Saxon period in Britain?
- What was the Viking Age in Britain?

3. Use information books and online sources to find out key events during the Anglo-Saxon period and the Viking Age in Britain. Record the key events in a table in chronological order. Two events are provided.

- AD 400 – The first Saxon, Jute and Angle invaders begin to arrive and settle in Britain.
- AD 410 – The Romans leave Britain.

4. Historians use a range of sources to learn about the Anglo-Saxons and Vikings. Find out about the sources listed below and record interesting information you discover.

- Bede and his writing
- Gildas and his writing
- *Anglo-Saxon Chronicle*
- Illuminated manuscripts
- Sutton Hoo burial site
- Excavations in Coppergate, York



5. Search the online collections on the British Museum and the Metropolitan Museum of Art websites to view artefacts that were made and belonged to the Anglo-Saxon and Viking people using key search terms. Choose two artefacts that interest you. Record your observations and findings in a table. Include a drawing or printed copy of each artefact, whether it is Anglo-Saxon or Viking, a description of the artefact, and interesting information about the artefact, such as materials or uses.
6. Use a range of sources to find out about the Anglo-Saxon and Viking way of life. Record your findings under headings of your choice on two mind maps – one for the Anglo-Saxons and one for the Vikings. Example headings could include food, homes, art, beliefs, law and warfare. Use your mind maps to help you write two reports: 'The Anglo-Saxon way of life' and 'The Viking way of life'. Include the title, an opening paragraph, headings, detailed facts and pictures with captions on each report.
7. Use your research skills to find out about King Arthur and Alfred the Great. Provide information about these two significant historical figures using a genre of your choice. You could write character profiles, fact files, poems or create a digital presentation.
8. Read and enjoy the Anglo-Saxon story *Beowulf* and Viking myths and legends to learn more about their beliefs. Watch animated versions of various Viking myths and legends on the KS2 Viking Sagas webpage on the BBC Teach website.
9. Many places in England have Anglo-Saxon names. Use the information in the table to translate these modern-day place names to their Anglo-Saxon meanings: Aldborough, Askham, Barwick, Bewerley, Carlton, Fleetham, Morley, Stonyhurst, Tonbridge, Wainfleet, Walden, Walshford. What other places can you find that derive from Anglo-Saxon names?



<b>Anglo-Saxon words</b>	<b>Meaning</b>
ald	old
ask	ash tree
bach	stream
bar	barley
burn	beaver
bury or borough	stream
carl	fortification
den or dene	freeman
fleet	valley or hollow
ham	creek or inlet
hurst	homestead
lee, leigh or ley	wooded hill
mor or moor	meadow or field
stowe	wasteland or marshland
tun or ton	important meeting place
wain	village or town
wal or walsh	wagon
wick	native Britons
Many Anglo-Saxon words have remained unchanged in our language and still have the same meaning today, such as bridge, market, sand, ford and stone.	

- 10.** Finish your home learning by writing a summary of the topic, explaining what you have learned about the Anglo-Saxons, the Vikings, their way of life and their struggle for England.



## Useful websites

Historical Association – Anglo-Saxons: a brief history  
Britannica Kids – Anglo-Saxons  
Historical Association – The Vikings in Britain: a brief history  
JORVIK Viking Centre – The Vikings  
The British Library – Anglo-Saxon Chronicle  
V&A – Illuminated Manuscripts  
Britannica Kids – Sutton Hoo  
JORVIK Viking Centre – Coppergate Dig  
DKfindout! – Alfred The Great Facts For Kids  
Britannica Kids – King Arthur

## Good reads

Title	Author	ISBN
Usborne History of Britain: Anglo-Saxons and Vikings	Abigail Wheatley and Hazel Maskell	9781409556107
The History Detective Investigates: The Anglo-Saxons	Neil Tonge	9780750284905
Discover and Learn: Anglo-Saxons – The Study Book	CGP	9781782941996
Discover and Learn: Vikings – The Study Book	CGP	9781782942016
Beowulf	Michael Morpurgo	9781406348873
Usborne Illustrated Guide: Norse Myths and Legends	Anne Millard	9780746081143

