



The Vikings

Knowing More, Remembering More

Remembering previous learning

Can you explain why the Romans wanted to invade Britain and what people thought about it? The Romans wanted to invade Britain for its valuable resources like metals and farmland. Some people agreed with the invasion because they saw benefits like new roads and trade, but others didn't want the Romans to take over their land.

When and how did the Romans conquer Britain, and why did some people have different ideas about it? The Romans conquered Britain in AD 43 by using their strong army to defeat the Celts. Some people think the invasion was a good thing because of the changes it brought, but others believe it was bad because the Celts lost their land and freedom.

Why did the Romans build roads, and how were people affected?

The Romans built roads to help their soldiers travel quickly and to connect towns across Britain. The roads helped traders but also gave the Romans more control, which the Celts did not like.

What did the Romans do that is still important today? The Romans built things like roads, baths, and houses that we still use ideas from today. Some things, like Roman roads, are still very important because they helped shape our modern road systems.

Historical Figures:



Alfred the Great



Odin: King of the Gods

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Knowing more in Y5

What happened at Lindisfarne on 8th June 793 AD? A group of Viking raiders attacked Lindisfarne, a small island with a famous monastery. They came in ships, stole gold and silver treasures, and caused a lot of damage. This event is important because it marked the beginning of many Viking raids in England.

Why did Vikings leave their homes, and what was life like for them? At home, Vikings lived in small villages where they farmed and made things.

Sometimes, life was tough, and they needed more land, food, or treasures, so they left to explore. The Vikings were not just raiders who attacked places; they were also traders who bought and sold goods from faraway lands.

Where did the Vikings settle in Britain, and why did they come? The Vikings settled in many places in Britain, like parts of the north and east, including places like York. They came to Britain because they wanted better land to farm and places to live. Viking settlements were different - some were small farms, while others grew into larger towns.

Who was Alfred, and was he really "Great"? Alfred was a king who lived a long time ago and fought against the Vikings. He won some important battles and made peace with the Vikings, helping to protect his kingdom. He also made good changes, like building strong defences and encouraging learning. Some people call him "Alfred the Great" because of these things.

How do we know about the Vikings, and why is it hard to get a clear picture of them? The Vikings didn't leave many written records of their own, so most of what we know comes from other people who wrote about them, like monks. These writings can be biased, meaning they don't always tell the full truth.

Key Learning Steps

- Understand why there are different accounts of what happened during the raid of Lindisfarne
- Understand what life was like for Vikings in their home land and why they wanted to leave
- Know when, where and why the Vikings settled in Britain
- Valid arguments for whether or not King Alfred deserved the title 'Great'
- Evaluate the quality of the evidence we have about the Vikings

In this unit, children will develop these skills:

- Establish clear narratives within and across the periods they study. Note connections, contrasts and trends over time. Combine overview and depth studies to help pupils understand both the long arc of development and the complexity of specific aspects of the content.
- Address and devise historically valid questions about cause.
- Understand how and why different interpretations of the past have been constructed.

Key vocabulary:

Raid, raider, monk, monastery, Viking, sacked, looted, abbey, migrate, settle, overpopulation, inheritance, causes, invader, settler, push and pull factors, significant, Wessex, monarch, cult, runes, longhouses, saga.

