

History: Struggle for the Kingdom

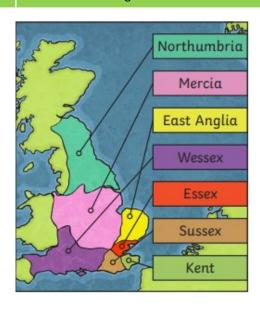
Spring A

Year 3



Key changes and events.		
AD 793	The Vikings attack the monastery Lindisfarne coming from Norway.	
AD 866	The Vikings capture the city of York.	
AD 871	Alfred the Great becomes king of Wessex. He drives the invading Vikings from the south but they stay in the north and the east.	
AD 878	The Vikings had settled permanently in England, overran Wessex and forced King Alfred into hiding.	
AD 886	King Alfred agrees a treaty with the Vikings. He keeps the west and the Vikings are given the east which then becomes known as 'Danelaw'.	
AD 900	The Vikings establish rule over Scotland.	
AD 954	The last Viking king of Jovik (York), Eric Bloodaxe, is forced out of York.	
AD 1013	King Sven of Denmark and his son, Cnut sail up the rivers Humber and trent to claim the throne in Danelaw and the Saxon king Ethelred flees abroad. A year later, Cnut becomes the king of the Danes and the king of England.	
AD 1042	Edward II is invited to return from Normandy, France to become king of England. Edward II was better known as Edward the Confessor because of his extreme piety.	
AD 1066	The last Anglo-Saxon king, King Harold is defeated by William the Conqueror at the Battle of Hastings and the Norman rule begins.	

Key facts		
Early Vikings	The Vikings came from the modern countries of Denmark, Norway and Sweden. This was known as Scandinavia. They travelled in boats known as longships and first arrived in Britain around AD 787. The Vikings raided places such as monasteries and pillaged expensive items to trade. They were looking for valuable goods like gold and jewels, imported foods and other useful materials.	
Anglo Saxon kings	The kings of Anglo-Saxon Britain each ruled their own kingdom and the people in it. They fought to defend their kingdom or take control of other kingdoms. When the Anglo-Saxons first settled in Britain, there were seven kingdoms, but by AD 878 there was just one kingdom left (Wessex) as the others had been overrun by the Vikings. Many Anglo-Saxon kings tried to resist the Vikings and fought hard to keep control of their land. King Alfred the Great was the best known Anglo-Saxon king and the first to defeat the Vikings in hattle	



Viking life	
	Vikings lived on farms and kept cows, pigs and sheep for milk, wool and meat.
houses	Walls made of stone or wood. A straw roof. Wattle and daub (sticks and mud/dung) for the inside of the walls
jewellery	Worn to show off how rich a person was.
pagans	Vikings arrived as pagans but eventually converted to Christianity.
sagas	Vikings used rhyme to tell stories about adventures and battles against monsters.

Anglo-Saxons laws and punishments

The Anglo-Saxon laws were very similar to some we have today, although the punishments were very different. These were often very brutal and would be carried in public to act as deterrents, to discourage others from committing such crimes. Stoning, whipping and exile were common punishments; as well as paying a fine (wergild), or receiving reparations in the form of hot or cold water ordeals.

Viking laws were not written down but passed on by word of mouth. Punishments could include fines, being semi-outlawed, fighting to the death, or revenge on someone who has killed a family member.

The last Anglo-Saxon kings

AD 1042 – Edward the Confessor became King. He was known as 'the Confessor' because he led a very religious life and was very kind and thoughtful.

AD 1066 – Harold II tried to stop Harald of Norway from invading England and killed him in the Battle of Stamford Bridge.

William, the Duke of Normandy, thought he should be king so came to fight Harold in the Battle of Hastings (AD 1066). Harold was shot through the eye with an arrow and died in the battle. William of Normandy, who became known as William the Conqueror, became King, bringing the Viking and Anglo-Saxon age to an end in AD 1066.

Key vocabulary	
Danegeld	"Paying the Dane". King Ethelred paid the Vikings 4500kg of silver to go home but they kept returning and were paid 22,000kg of silver in Danegeld altogether.
exile	To be sent away.
invade	To enter and occupy land.
kingdom	An area ruled by a king.
longship	A long, wooden, narrow boat used by the Vikings.
outlawed	Having all property taken away and no longer being able to live in the community.
Pagans	A religion where many gods and goddesses are worshipped.
pillage	To violently steal something.
raid	A surprise attack.
wergild	A payment system used to settle disputes between a criminal and the victim or their family.

