

History: Anglo-Saxons and Vikings

- Around the time the Romans left in 410AD, three tribes called the Angles, Saxons and the Jutes invaded England. By 600AD, they had claimed England as their own and divided it into seven kingdoms. Each kingdom was ruled by an Anglo-Saxon king.
- The Anglo-Saxons lived in small villages and farmed the land. They were craftspeople who used wood, metal, clay and precious stones to make weapons, tools, pottery, furniture and jewellery.
- The Vikings came from Denmark, Sweden and Norway. They raided monasteries such as Lindisfarne on the north coast of England in 793AD.
- They attacked monasteries because they were easy targets: monks had no weapons but lots of riches.
- The end of Anglo-Saxon rule came in 1066 with the invasion of the Normans.



Vocabulary

Anglo-Saxon	rule
Viking	Denmark
raid	longhouse
Lindisfarne	monks
kingdom	tribes
monastery	settlement
invade	Jutes



Anglo-Saxon

AD 449
Traditionally thought to be when Anglo-Saxon invaders arrive in Britain. Originally two Saxon brothers, Hengest and Horsa, were hired to fight for Britain, but they decided they liked it, turned against the current king and invaded.

AD 500

AD 600
During the 600s the Saxons gradually take over the land we now call England. The country is split into Northumbria (North), Mercia (middle) East Anglia (east) and Wessex (south).

AD 793
The Vikings attack from Norway. They attack the Monastery of Lindisfarne in Northumbria. This is just a raid, they will return to invade later.

AD 700

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 924
Alfred the Great's grandson, Athelstan, becomes king of Wessex. In 927 he conquers the last Viking kingdom, York, and becomes the first king of England.

AD 937
Athelstan's rule is resented by the Welsh, Scots, Irish and Vikings and they work together to destroy his rule. Athelstan defeats the rebels and he and the Saxons defeat them in battle.

AD 939
Athelstan dies and the Vikings, led by Olaf Guthfrithsson invade England and take back the North.

AD 1042
Edward the Confessor becomes king. Edward was better known as 'the Confessor' due to his extreme piety. He introduced more regular contact with the continent than England had previously known and the Norman influence in the English court increased.

AD 1066
Edward the Confessor dies and Harold, earl of Wessex, is crowned king of England. Both William Duke of Normandy and Harold Hardrada, king of Norway, send powerful threats and make claims on the throne. Harold is defeated by William the Conqueror and his Norman army.

AD 900

AD 1100

Art: Printing Anglo-Saxon patterns

- ◆ The dense animal patterns that cover many Anglo-Saxon objects have symbolic meanings and tell stories.
- ◆ Resist printing is a method used to apply a design on a material.
- ◆ It involves using techniques that prevent the dye from reaching certain parts of the material e.g. etching, string, wax.

What could this pattern represent?



Vocabulary

patterns	symbolism
printing	design
etching	meaning
string	material
resist	dye

Geography: Anglo-Saxon influence in the UK

- ◆ A county is a smaller area of the UK containing lots of towns and villages.
- ◆ They are the top level of local government. They control the local area and the services within, such as education, transport, policing, public safety, social care, and waste management.
- ◆ The Anglo-Saxons split England into 7 kingdoms: Northumbria, Essex, Wessex, Sussex, Mercia, Kent and East Anglia.
- ◆ These county names mainly came from the names and geographical location of the Anglo-Saxons who first settled

Anglo-Saxon kingdoms



Vocabulary

county	village
city	local
kingdom	settlement
location	
influence	
town	

Who were the Anglo-Saxons?



Who were the Vikings?



Origins of English place names

