

# Team 3 – Knowledge Organiser – Who were the Vikings?

## What you should know already:

The Stone Age was when early humans used tools from stone. This period lasted until the Bronze Age and was followed by the Iron Age.

In AD 43, the Romans first invaded Britain and Roman rule lasted until AD 410.

The Anglo Saxons began to settle alongside the Britons in 400AD.

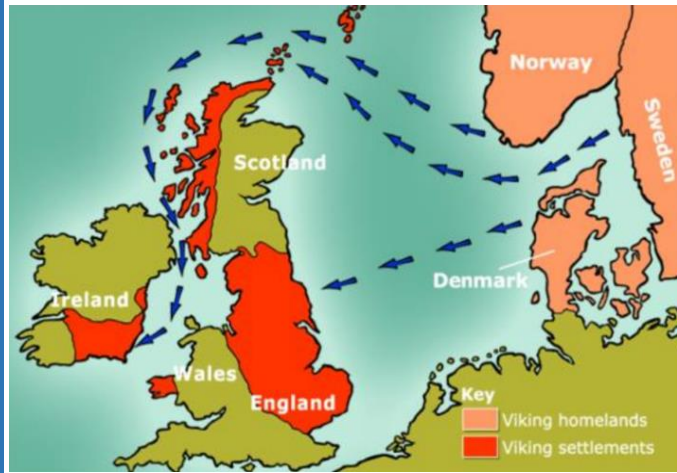
The Battle of Hastings happened in 1066 and William the Conqueror won the Battle of Hastings and became the new King of England.

## Top Ten Vocabulary

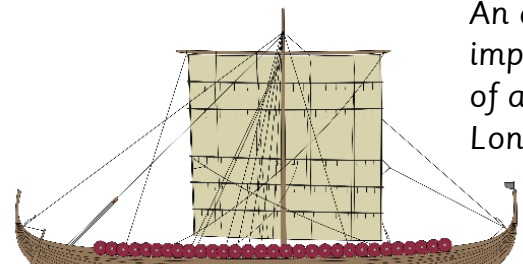
Viking	The Vikings were fierce warriors from Scandinavia. The word Viking means “a pirate raid”.
Danelaw	The area of England ruled by the Vikings.
Anglo-Saxon	The main group of people living in Britain when the Vikings invaded.
Invader	To enter a place in a forceful way.
Longship	A Viking ship used for fighting and carrying out raids.
Runes	The name given to the Viking alphabet.
AD	AD (Anno Domini) is used to show dates after the birth of Jesus.
Pagan	A person who believed in many gods.
Pillaged	To violently steal something.
Monasteries	The buildings where monks live.

## Synopsis

As Historians, we will be finding out about who the Vikings were and what happened when they invaded Britain in 787AD. We will look at why the Vikings invaded Britain and what life was like during this time.



This map shows how Vikings came to the British Isles.



An artist's impression of a Viking Longship.

## Key Knowledge

The **Vikings** came from the modern Scandinavian countries of Denmark, Norway and Sweden. They travelled in boats called **longships** and first arrived in Britain around 787AD. The Vikings raided places such as **monasteries** and **pillaged** expensive items to trade. The Vikings wanted to claim land and tried to take over much of Britain. They **invaded** and settled in Scotland before heading south across England. By 878AD the Vikings had settled permanently in Britain. The Viking's farming techniques, language and laws spread across the north and east of England. Traditional Viking families had men working the land, with a wife taking care of the home and of the family valuables. When they first arrived, most Vikings followed **pagan** religions, but soon converted to Christianity as they became settled in England. In 1066 William the Conqueror **invaded** England and the Viking rule in England came to an end.

## 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.	Aethstan, 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.