Scandinavia

Why did the Vikings come to Whitby?

Term: Spring 2

Leonin East

Key facts

 The Vikings (also known as Norsemen) came from three countries of Scandinavia: Denmark, Sweden and Norway.

Year Group: 5

- The name 'Viking' means 'a pirate raid'. People who went off raiding in ships were said to be 'going Viking'.
- Vikings sailed the seas on longboats, raiding and taking over land.
- The Viking raids started out as short trips to steal treasure and take slaves.
- In time the Vikings made their home in Britain and took it for themselves.
- The Saxon King, King Alfred of Wessex, fought them in a great battle but he could not stop them at first so had to let them have part of the country. This area was known as Danelaw.
- Not all the Vikings were bloodthirsty warriors. Some were farmers, who kept animals and grew crops.
- Some were skilful craft workers, who made beautiful metal work and wooden carvings.
- Everyone lived together in a large home called a longhouse.
- The Vikings also brought with them their way of life and beliefs.

Did you know?

England had four Viking kings between 1013 and 1042. The greatest of these was King Cnut, who was king of Denmark as



well as of England.

Many towns and cities in Britain today were founded by the Vikings; places that end in -by (Whitby), -thorpe (Scunthorpe) or -kirk are most certainly Viking towns.

Timeline

Subject Focus: History

What we call the Viking Age, and their relationship with England, lasted from approximately 800 to 1150 AD

401- 410AD	The Romans withdraw from Britain: Anglo Saxons migrants begin to settle
450AD	Anglo-Saxon invaders arrive in Britain
600AD	Anglo-Saxons gradually take over Britain
633AD	Lindisfame monastery built
793AD	The Vikings attack and capture the city of York (Jorvik)
867- 878AD	Series of Viking victories
871AD	Alfred the Great becomes King of Wessex
886AD	The Vikings and King Alfred divide England
954AD	Eric Bloodaxe, the last King of Jorvik, is thrown out of York
1014A D	King Canute (Cnut) of Denmark becomes King of England
1042A D	Edward the Confessor becomes king
1066A D	King Harold is killed in the Battle of Hastings William I (the Conqueror) crowned King of England
1100A	End of the Viking age

In 866 AD the Vikings captured modern York (Viking name: Jorvik) and made it their capital.

Key words:

Danegeld	Money paid to Vikings to stop them from raiding.
Danelaw	Area in Britain that the Danish Vikings ruled over.
Knarr	Viking ship used for long voyages and trading because
	it had lots of storage space.
Longship	Viking ship used for fighting and carrying out raids.
Pagan	A person who believes in many gods.
<u>Plunder</u>	Take loot during a raid, often causing damage at the
	same time.
Rune	A letter from the alphabet used by Vikings. There were
	only 16.
Scandinavia	The countries of Norway, Sweden and Denmark. This
	is the area Vikings came from.
Valhalla	The place Vikings believed they would go to after
	death if they died fighting bravely in battle.
Wergild.	Compensation paid by someone who has committed a
	crime to an injured person of family

Exciting books/ web links:







http://www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/vikings.html https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/ztyr9j6 https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/ks2-history/zfbwhbk

Parents as partners:

- Encourage your child to create some amazing fact cards about the Vikings.
- Together, make a Viking longboat or longhouse using recycled materials.
- Create a word search or crossword about the Vikings
- Visit some of the websites listed on this page and talk about what you discover.
- Arrange a visit to the Jorvik Viking centre.