



KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER

HISTORY: VIKINGS

Y5 SPRING TERM

TIMELINE OF KEY EVENTS:	
DATE	WHAT HAPPENED
AD 793	Vikings attack Lindisfarne
AD 866	Vikings capture York
AD 871	Alfred the Great becomes King of Wessex
AD 878	They settle in England
AD 886	King Alfred agrees treaty with Vikings
AD 900	Vikings rule Northern Scotland
AD 954	The last Viking King of Jorvik is forced out of York
AD 1013	King Sven of Denmark and his son Cnut sail up the river Humber to claim the throne
AD 1066	King Harold defeated in Battle of Hastings

KEY VOCABULARY:	
WORDS	MEANING
Anglo-Saxon Chronicle	a book written by AngloSaxon monks to record the events of each year
Danelaw	part of north and east England under the law of the Vikings, where they lived and ruled
Hoard	treasure buried in the ground, probably for safety in times of trouble
Longship	a Viking warship
Monastery	a religious place where monks live and pray
Monk	a man who devotes himself to religion
Norse	to do with the Vikings ('Norsemen', from the North)
Saga	a story or myth told by Vikings to remember the lives of earlier famous Viking people
Scandinavia	where the Vikings came from: Norway, Sweden and Denmark
Vinland	a Viking name for part of North America (on the tip of modern Newfoundland).

KEY KNOWLEDGE:
QUESTION 1: What was Viking life like in Norway, Denmark and Sweden?
ANSWER The climate caused poor soil conditions, necessitating seafaring, fishing and hunting as they could not rely on agriculture. The time of the conquests was a time of great social, economic and political change in Scandinavia.
QUESTION 2: When, where and why did Vikings settle in Britain?
ANSWER The Viking age in Britain began about 1200 years ago in the 9 th Century and lasted for 300 years, from AD 793 to AD 1066 when William the Conqueror became King after the Battle of Hastings. They settled primarily in Northern Scotland and Eastern England. In Ireland Vikings founded the city of Dublin.
QUESTION 3: Why was King Alfred called the great?
ANSWER The only King in British History to be called Great, Alfred fought the Vikings all his life. Eventually he won an important Battle of Edington in Wiltshire in AD 878 after which many Vikings agreed to live in peace.



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KEY PEOPLE:	
NAME	WHAT THEY DID
Alfred the Great	Beat the Viking army and agreed peace with many (886)
King Ethelred	West Saxon King who defeated the Viking army in Battle of Ashdown
Eric Bloodaxe	The last Viking king of Jorvik is thrown out of York (954)
King Canute	Captured the English Crown (1014)
Edward the Confessor	Becomes king in 1042 (Saxon)

SUGGESTED WEBSITES TO FIND OUT MORE:
www.bbc.co.uk/education/topics/2tyr9j6
www.dkfindout.com/uk/history/vikings