

Year 6 Knowledge Organiser- Anglo-Saxons

Key Vocabulary

Angles	People from Germany who invaded Britain around 410AD
Anglo-Saxons	The name given to people who travelled from Germany and South Denmark and settled in Britain
Christianity	The religion based on the teachings of Jesus Christ
Jutes	People from the Jutland peninsula (Germany and South Denmark)
Migration	Movement from one place to another in order to settle there.
Pagan	A person who follows a religion that is not a major religion
Picts	Ancient tribes who lived in northern Scotland
Runes	Alphabet consisting of between 26-33 letters used to write Old English
Settler	People who migrate to a new place. When people start a community, this is a settlement
Thatch	The craft of building a roof with dry vegetation such as reeds and straw.

Prior Knowledge

Britain was invaded and settled by people from other countries (e.g. Romans)





Our culture has developed upon the beliefs, culture, technology and language of invaders and settlers.

When, where and why Vikings invaded Britain

Knowledge

Where did the Anglo-Saxons come from? The Romans left Britain in 410 due to fierce tribes attacking Italy and every soldier was needed back at home to defend the country. Without an army of its own, it left the country vulnerable to attackers. The Anglo-Saxons came from Denmark, Netherlands and northern Germany across the North Sea in wooden boats. The conquered England but failed to conquer Scotland, Wales and Cornwall (an area of south-west England).

Daily Life in the Anglo-Saxon Times

Houses		The Anglo-Saxons built their homes from natural resources. They were small wooden huts with straw roofs, and one room in which the whole family lived. There was a hole in the roof to allow the smoke to escape when cooking. Some homes were made using wattle and daub. This was a mixture of sticks woven together and covered in mud or manure. During the Anglo-Saxon period most buildings were made from wood.
Religion		Most Anglo-Saxons were pagans, believing in lots of different gods, until the Pope in Rome sent over Augustine as a missionary, in 597AD. Slowly, the country became Christian. Augustine became the first archbishop of Canterbury.
Food		Anglo-Saxons enjoyed huge feasts. They ate bread, meats such as pork and lamb, vegetables such as carrots and parsnips, and drank milk and beer! Food would have been home grown or obtained through trading goods they had made.
Clothes		Men wore long-sleeved tunics made of wool or linen, and these were often decorated with patterns. Women would wear an underdress of linen, and an outer pinafore-like dress called a 'peplos.' Shoes were made of leather. Their clothes were made from natural resources. They wore belts to hang tools and weapons from.

Timeline

410 A.D.	497 A.D.	573 A.D.	586 A.D.	597 A.D.	757 A.D.	793 A.D.	871 A.D.	1016 A.D.	1066 A.D.
Romans left Britain leaving it unguarded	The kingdom of Wessex is formed	The Kingdom of East Anglia was formed	The Kingdom of Mercia was formed	St. Augustine introduces Christianity	Offa King of Mercia declares himself king of England	Vikings attack Lindisfarne	Alfred the Great rules	Canute the Great rules as the first Viking	Battle of Hastings Normans defeated by Saxons