

Key Vocabulary

Danelaw	The area in Anglo-Saxon England which the Vikings ruled.
Valhalla	A great hall in Viking mythology where those slain in battle are taken to receive a great welcome.
saga	A narrative telling the adventures of a hero or a family.
monastery	A building where a community of monks live and worship.
pagan	A general terms for those who believed in more than one god, or does not accept the beliefs of the major world religions.
berserker	Viking warriors legendary for fighting with reckless savagery and fury.
pillage	Steal goods or take as spoils.
rune	A letter from an ancient alphabet.
Scandinavia	A group of culturally related countries in northern Europe (Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Finland).
settlement	Choosing to stay and build a life in a particular place.
trader or merchant	Someone who buys and sells goods.
keel	The backbone of a vessel. The Vikings were the first to develop this.

Text

How to Train Your Dragon by Cressida Cowell
The popular book and film series kicks off with an out-of-place Hiccup amongst his Viking brethren. Can he live up to the destiny that awaits him?



Key Knowledge

- The Vikings came from Scandinavia.
- The Vikings invented longboats to travel quickly across water.
- The first planned raid was on the island of Lindisfarne (AD 793).
- Know which significant places the Vikings raided.
- When raiding, the Vikings targeted the small churches and monasteries, as they were undefended and had plenty of loot.
- In AD 886 the Danish Vikings were in control of the Danelaw.
- Knowledge of this time period comes from archaeological sources.
- Know the importance of Harold Godwinson, William the Conqueror and Harald Hadrada during the Viking time period.
- To recognise the reliability of primary and secondary sources of evidence and how this helps us learn about the past.

YEAR 5: AUTUMN 2

BIG Q: How did the Vikings become so powerful in Britain?

- How did the Vikings reach distant lands?
- Were the Vikings always vicious and victorious?
- How did the Vikings lives and beliefs differ to our own?
 - Why did the Vikings come to Britain?
 - Why did the Vikings leave Britain?
- How reliable is our evidence of Viking Britain?

