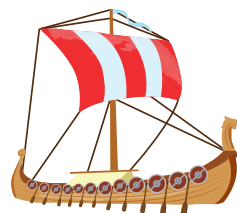


Who were the Vikings?

- Vikings left their homes in Scandinavia and sailed in longships to other parts of Europe.
- Longships could sail in shallow water, so they could travel up rivers and across seas.
- Vikings lived simply and comfortably with their families in longhouses.



Danelaw

After King Alfred's victory at the Battle of Edington, Guthrum withdrew from Wessex and agreed to divide England.

The Vikings settled in the Danelaw, where York was the most important city.

Many Anglo-Saxons lived peacefully in the Danelaw as long as they followed Danish law.

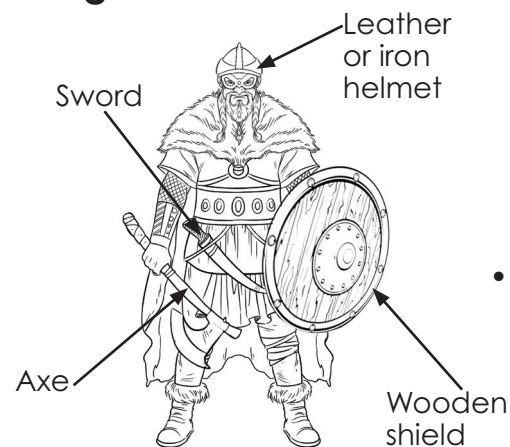
Edward the Elder and his sister Aethelflaed conquered the Danelaw.



Trade

- The Vikings travelled buying and selling many goods.
- Excavations and analysis of Viking hoards show us how far the Vikings travelled and traded.

Viking raids



- In England, Vikings raided religious buildings. These were easy to find and contained gold and silver.
- Vikings believed dying in battle would help them reach Valhalla (heaven).

Viking rule

Edward's son, Athelstan, was the first king of all England.



Edward the Confessor

In the late 10th century, Viking raids began again. King Ethelred fought them using the Danegeld.

Danish king Sweyn Forkbeard conquered England. His son, King Cnut, ruled England, Denmark, and Norway peacefully.

In 1042, Edward the Confessor became king after 25 years of Danish rule.

790CE

Viking age began

874CE

Vikings had conquered all English kingdoms except Wessex

1042

Edward the Confessor became king

1066

Viking period ended

Word	Definition
artefact	An object made by humans that is studied by archaeologists.
battle	A sustained fight between armies.
chieftain	A leader of the people and a law-speaker who oversees decisions.
conquer	To invade and control a country or place.
Danegeld	Money paid to viking raiders to make them leave without causing damage.
Danelaw	The name given to the parts of England ruled under the laws of the vikings (or Danes).
defeated	Losing in a game or battle.
excavation	Digging in the ground to look for old objects or buildings to discover things about the past.
Freya	Norse goddess of love, war, and death.
goods	Things that can be bought and sold.
Guthrum	Viking ruler who was defeated by King Alfred in the Battle of Edington.
heathen	A person who follows a religion other than one of the main world religions, e.g., a non-Christian. It is usually used as an insult.
hierarchy	The structure of a society, with members ranked according to status or authority.
hoard	A collection of valuables found altogether.
homelands	A person's native country, e.g., Scandinavia for the Vikings.
longhouse	Long, narrow building with a single room to house multiple people.
longship	A long, narrow ship, powered by both oar and sail, with many rowers.

Word	Definition
monastery	A building where monks live and work.
Norse	Belonging or relating to medieval Scandinavia.
people	Men, women, and children of a particular country or nation.
priory	A religious house governed by a prior or prioress.
raid	A rapid surprise attack, usually involving stealing something.
reign	The time when someone is king or queen.
revenge	Harming someone in return for harm they have done to you.
Scandinavia	A region in Northern Europe consisting of Norway, Denmark, and Sweden in the time of the Vikings.
territory	An area of land under the control of a ruler or state.
Thing	A community gathering where problems would be solved and decisions made.
Thor	God of thunder and the sky in Norse mythology.
trade	The action of buying and selling goods and services.
treasure	A store of precious metals or jewels.
truce	When enemies create an agreement to stop fighting for a time.
unification	Being made into a whole or the process of being united.
Valhalla	The hall in Norse mythology where Odin met the souls of dead warriors.
Viking	A Scandinavian trader and pirate in the 8 th –11 th centuries.