

Vikings Knowledge Organiser – Year 6

Key Knowledge

- ✓ The Viking time period is 793-1066 AD.
- ✓ Vikings raided Lindisfarne in 793, signalling the start of the centuries of Viking raids on Britain.
- ✓ Not all Vikings were warriors. Many came in peace and become farmers.
- ✓ The lands that the Vikings occupied were known as Danelaw.
- ✓ Not many Vikings, if any, wore horns in their helmets.
- ✓ Vikings spoke Norse, which had an alphabet made up of runes.
- ✓ Longships were designed to sail in both deep and shallow water so that they could get close to the shore so they could not be easily seen.
- ✓ Vikings were pagans and often raided monasteries, looting gold.
- ✓ The most important Viking British city was York or Jorvik as it was known by the Vikings.

Days of the Week

The names for most of the days of the week originate from Vikings.

Monday – linked to the moon by the name Mani – Norse for Moon.

Tuesday named after the Viking God of War – Tyr.

Wednesday – named after Woden.

Thursday – named after Thor, the God of thunder.

Big Idea

In the centuries after their first raid on English soil in A.D. 793, Vikings made a historic series of attacks, waged wars and formed settlements in the British islands, leaving a permanent impact on the land, culture and language.



Concepts



Conflict & disaster - conquest

Disciplinary Concepts



Cause & consequence



Evidence & interpretation

Vocabulary

Archaeologist: People who work out our history by looking at artefacts that have been found.

Raids: A sudden armed attack against it, with the aim of causing damage rather than occupying any of the enemy's land.

Longhouse: A large hall like building where many Viking families would live together.

Berserkers: Warriors that went to war wearing wolf or bear skins. They were out of control and charged fearlessly. The word 'berserk' came from it.

Longship: The narrow boat used by Vikings to raid along coasts.

Odin: One of the most famous Viking Gods known for wisdom.

Scandinavia: The name given to the collection of countries: Denmark, Norway and Sweden.

Danelaw: The name given to lands in Britain occupied by the Vikings.

Misconception: This means mis-understanding. In Viking terms there were many misunderstandings about the Vikings.

Jorvik: The Viking name for the city of York. York now has a famous Viking museum called Jorvik.

Key Events

The Vikings attack the island of Lindisfarne.

793 AD

The Vikings capture the city of York.

866 AD

They settle permanently in England

878 AD

The Vikings rule the North of Scotland

900 AD

King Harold is defeated at the Battle of Hastings

1066

'A people without the knowledge of their past history, origin and culture is like a tree without roots' Marcus Garvey.