

Aldryngton Primary School Knowledge Organiser: How did the Anglo Saxons change everyday life in Britain?

A topic looking at Scots and Anglo Saxons invasions, settlements, kingdoms, art, culture and religion.

Key Vocabulary

Word	Definition	Word	Definition
Angles	Tribes from modern day Denmark.	Picts	Tribes originally from Scotland who were perceived as particularly bloodthirsty.
Christianity	A religion based on the teachings of Jesus Christ.	Romans	The Romans invaded and settled in Britain for over 400 years, starting with their first successful raid in 54BCE.
missionary	A person from a religion sent somewhere to spread the faith.	Saxons	German-Dutch tribes who settled in Britain from around 450CE.
Pagan	A person from a religion that involves worshipping many gods and goddesses.	Scots	Tribes originally from Ireland who, like the Picts, were fierce and powerful fighters.



Anglo-Saxon Britain wasn't ruled by one person and the Anglo-Saxons were not united. They invaded as many different tribes and each took over different parts of Britain. Each group of Anglo-Saxon settlers had a leader or war-chief. A strong and successful leader became 'cyning', the Anglo-Saxon word for 'king'. Each king ruled a kingdom and led a small army. From time to time, the strongest king would claim to be 'bretwalda', which meant ruler of all Britain.



Coming to England – then and now

This term we will be finding out why the Anglo-Saxons came to Britain as well as how they changed everyday life when they arrived. We will also be asking why people choose to come to Britain to start a new life today? We will be reading 'Coming to England' by Floella Benjamin and thinking about why the many people who arrived in Britain in the middle of the twentieth century on board the Empire Windrush chose to relocate to Britain.

Find out more by following this link -

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/43793769>



Useful websites for get you started with the Saxons...

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zxsbcdm> - information and video clips

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/school-radio/history-ks2-anglo-saxons-index/zhtdd6f> - seven dramas exploring the time of the Anglo-Saxons in England, including the story of Beowulf.

<https://www.natgeokids.com/uk/discover/history/general-history/anglo-saxons/> - facts about everyday life

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zp-MTR-fcAA> - info and quiz

Useful books for our topic

Class book – Coming to England – Floella Benjamin

Beowulf (Usborne) - Rob Lloyd Jones & Victor Tavares (Illustrated short chapter book)

Beowulf - Gareth Hinds (Graphic Novel)

King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table - Marcia Williams (Comic style short stories)

The Buried Crown - Ally Sherrick (Chapter book)

The King Who Threw Away His Throne - Terry Deary (Chapter book)

Freedom for Bron: The Boy Who Saved a Kingdom - N. S. Blackman (Chapter book)

Smashing Saxons - Terry Deary (Chapter book)