Autumn 2 Year 5 – Vikings and Anglo-Saxons

What can we learn from the raids and invasions by Vikings in Anglo-Saxon Britain?



Key Vocabulary	
archaeology	The study of the past by examining the remains of buildings, tools and other objects.
artefacts	Objects that are made by human beings, especially of cultural interest.
conquer	Taking complete control of a land.
invade	Enter a country by force with an army.
kingdom	A country or region that is ruled by a king or queen.
longboat	A type of Scandinavian war ship.
raid	Entering a place illegally, often violently, to steal.
settlement	A place or region where people lived.
sources	Something that provides information about the past.







What I should already know

The Anglo-Saxons invaded and settled in Britain from AD 450.

Learning Journey

- To explain when and where the Vikings came from and why they invaded Britain.
- To compare the significance of Anglo-Saxon kings during the Viking period.
- To explain who King Ethelred II was and when Danegeld was introduced.
- To identify and explain key aspects of Viking life.
- To explain how the legal system worked in Anglo-Saxon and Viking Britain.
- To explain how the last Anglo-Saxon kings shaped Britain.

NC coverage

The Viking and Anglo-Saxon struggle for the Kingdom of England to the time of Edward the Confessor.

Powerful knowledge

- The Vikings were Norse people who came from an area called Scandinavia (countries such as Norway, Sweden and Denmark). The Viking age in European history was from about 700 to 1100 AD. During this period, many Vikings left their homelands in Scandinavia and travelled by longboat to other countries, like Britain and Ireland.
- The kings of Anglo-Saxon Britain each ruled their own kingdom and the people in it. They fought to defend their kingdom or take control of other kingdoms. Many Anglo-Saxon kings tried to resist the Vikings and fought hard to keep control of their land. King Alfred the Great was the best known Anglo-Saxon king and the first to defeat the Vikings in battle.
- King Ethelred paid the Vikings 4500kg of silver to go home but they kept returning and were paid 22,000kg of silver in Danegeld altogether.
- Vikings lived on farms and kept cows, pigs and sheep for milk, wool and meat. Walls were made of stone or wood and had a straw roof.
 Jewellery was worn to show how rich a person was. Wikings used rhyme to tell stories about adventures.
- Anglo-Saxon laws were very similar to ours today, although some punishments were different and included stoning, whipping and exile.
 Viking laws were not written down but told between people.
 Punishments included fines, fighting to the death and being semioutlawed.
- The last Anglo-Saxon kings were Edward the Confessor, Harold II and William the Conqueror.