

Knowledge Organiser

Year Group	Subject	Topic
3	History	Anglo-Saxons

The Big Picture

The last Roman soldiers left Britain in 410 AD. Britain no longer had the strong Roman army to defend it from the invaders. New people came in ships across the North Sea: the Anglo-Saxons. The Anglo-Saxon age in Britain was from around 410 AD to 1066.

They were a mix of tribes from Germany, Denmark and the Netherlands. The three biggest were the Angles, the Saxons and the Jutes. The land they settled in was 'Angle-land', or England.

Some Anglo-Saxons were warriors who enjoyed fighting. They thought the Britons were weak and easy to beat without the Romans around. Others came peacefully to find land to farm.

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.

Enquiry Question

Who were the Anglo-Saxon invaders?

Who was Alfred the Great?

Where did they settle?

What is a settlement? What kind did the Anglo-Saxons live in?

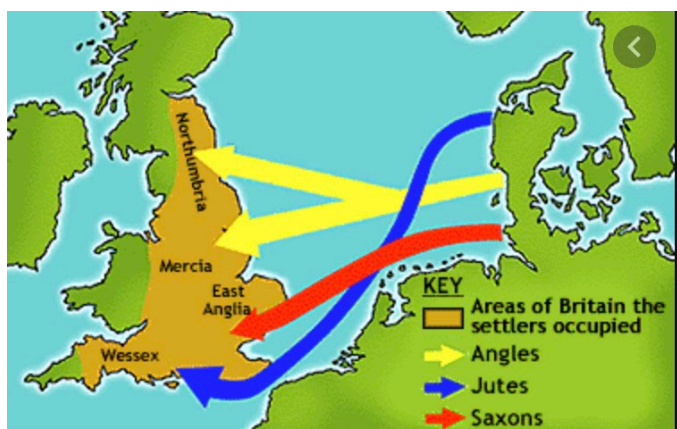
What was the Battle of Hastings?

Key Vocabulary

Angles	Tribes from modern day Denmark.
Christianity	A religion based on the teachings of Jesus.
Missionary	A person from a religion sent to spread the faith.
Pagan	A religion that involves worshipping many gods and goddesses.
Picts	Tribes originally from Scotland who were 'foul' and had a 'lust for blood'.
Romans	The Romans invaded and settled in Britain for over 400 years, starting with their first successful raid in 54 BC.
Saxons	German - Dutch tribes who settled in Britain from around 450 AD.
Scots	People from Ireland, who like the Picts, were fierce and powerful fighters.
Danegeld	Money, or goods, paid by the Anglo-Saxons to the Vikings to stop them invading more places.
Settlement	A place where people decide to live.



Key People	
King Alfred	King of Wessex (a Saxon kingdom in south-western England). He prevented England from falling to the Danes and promoted learning and literacy.
William the Conqueror	He was the first Norman King of England, reigning from 1066 until 1087. He was Duke of Normandy from 1035 onward. His hold was secure on Normandy by 1060, following a long struggle to establish his throne, and he launched the Norman conquest of England six years later.
Edward the Confessor	The last but one of the Anglo-Saxon kings of England, Edward was known for his religious faith.
Athelstan	Alfred the Great's grandson. He reigned between 925 AD and 939 AD and was the very first 'King of all England'.
King Cnut	(Also known as King Canute) A fierce Danish warrior king who ruled over England between 1016 and 1035.



Important Dates	
410 AD	Roman rule in Britain ends
449-550 AD	Angles and Saxons invade
597 AD	St. Augustine came to England and introduced people to Christianity
871 - 899 AD	Alfred the Great ruled
1016 - 1035 AD	Cnut the Great ruled as the first Viking King
1066 AD	The Battle of Hastings, resulting in the Normans defeating the Anglo-Saxons

