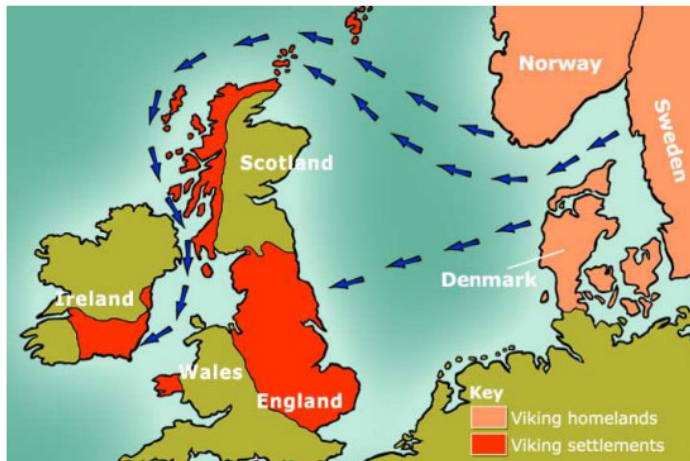


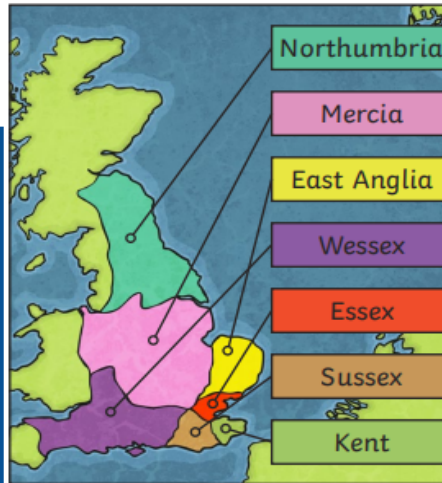
# Vikings — Autumn Year 5

The Vikings came from the modern Scandinavian countries of Denmark, Norway and Sweden. They travelled in boats called longships and first arrived in Britain around AD 787. The Vikings raided places such as monasteries and pillaged expensive items to trade. They were looking for valuable goods like gold and jewels, imported foods and other useful materials.



The map (left) shows where the Vikings came from and where they settled.

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. When the Anglo-Saxons first settled in Britain, there were seven kingdoms, but by AD 878 there was just one kingdom left (Wessex) as the others had been overrun by the Vikings. 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.



### Key Vocabulary

**Danegeld** "Paying the Dane".  
King Etherfred paid the Vikings 4500kg of silver to go home but they kept returning and were paid 22,000kg of silver in Danegeld altogether.

**exile** To be sent away.

**invade** To enter and occupy land. kingdom An area ruled by a king.

**longship** A long, wooden, narrow boat used by the Vikings.

**outlawed** Having all property taken away and no longer being able to live in the community.

**pagans** A religion where many gods and goddesses are worshipped.

**pillaged** To violently steal something.

**raid** A surprise attack.

**wergild** A payment system used to settle disputes between a criminal and the victim or their family.

What have the Vikings ever done for us?

**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 Odin and known as Woden's Day.

**Thursday** — named after Thor, the God of thunder.

**Friday** is named after Frigg, wife of Odin.

