

Topic: Anglo-Saxons in Britain

Year: 4

Term: Summer

Key Facts

Who were the Anglo-Saxons?

The Anglo-Saxons were tribes of people who came to England after the Romans.

Why did they come to England?

In AD 410, the Romans had left Britain. Tribes of Irish Scots and Scottish Picts invaded Britain.

The British King asked his brothers, Hengest and Horsa to come over to help. They brought with them many warriors who fought back the invaders.

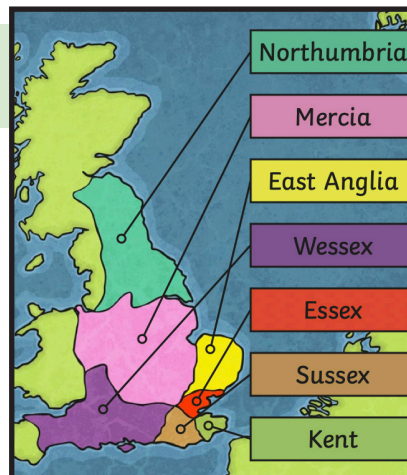
After a while, three main tribes came and settled in Britain from parts of Germany and Scandinavia: Jutes, Angles and Saxons.

What was life like in Anglo-Saxon times?

Similar to the poleis (cities) of Ancient Greece, Anglo-Saxon tribes were run independently. Each tribe was ruled by a king and each tribe would regularly attack the other.

They were split into different areas (shown on the map to the right).

It was not until AD 927 that King Æthelstan was crowned King of the English, and Britain became England.



The Vikings Arrive...

During Anglo-Saxon times, Britain was invaded by tribes of people called, 'The Vikings.'

They had many battles with the Anglo-Saxons and often took land from them.

Date	Event
AD 449	Angles and Saxons arrive in Britain.
AD 590	Anglo-Saxons start to convert to Christianity.
AD 787	Viking invasions begin in Britain.
AD 865	King Alfred the Great allows the Vikings to settle in parts of Britain - this is called Danelaw.
AD 927	King Æthelstan becomes first King of England.
AD 1066	King Harold of England defeats Harald Hardrada, the Viking king at the Battle of Stamford Bridge, in York.
AD 1066	William the Conqueror defeats the Anglo-Saxons at the Battle of Hastings.



Key Facts

The Battle of Stamford Bridge

In 1066, a Viking army led by King Harald Hardrada of Denmark invaded England.

His army was defeated by the King of England, King Harold Godwinson.

The Battle of Hastings

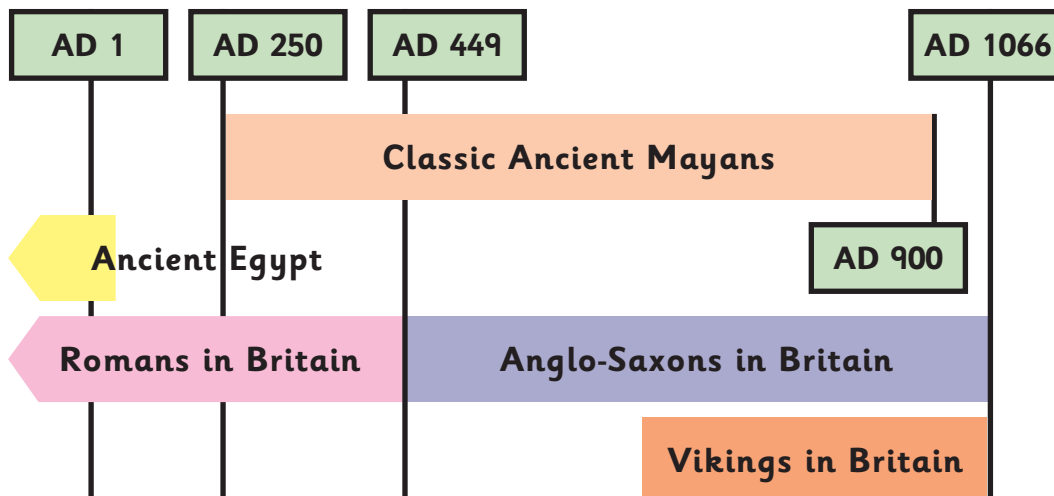
After the battle, Duke William of Normandy (in France) invaded England.

King Harold of England marched his army south to meet him.

Exhausted from battle, King Harold's army was defeated and King Harold killed when an arrow struck his eye.

William of Normandy became King of England - King William I.

Timeline



Vocabulary

Word	Explanation
convert	to change from one thing to another; to change religion
invade	a group of people or army move into a place without permission, usually with force
invader	a person, or group of people, who invades a place
Pict	a Celtic tribe living in Scotland
Scandinavia	to the east of Britain, the area made up of Norway, Sweden, and Denmark
Scot	a Celtic tribe living in Ireland
tribe	a group of people who live together, usually with a ruler in charge
Vikings	a tribe of farmers and pirates from Scandinavia who invaded Britain
warrior	a fearful, highly-skilled fighter

