

Invasion



These activities are for you to do at home. You can do all of them or choose the ones that you find most interesting.

Activities

1. Imagine you are an Anglo-Saxon invader. Write a letter home to your family in Denmark, the Netherlands or Germany. Include details about the journey to England, where you have settled and explain any difficulties you have faced.
2. Use the internet to search for pictures of the artefacts found at the Sutton Hoo burial site, such as The Franks casket, purse lid and shoulder clasp. Create a piece of Anglo-Saxon art using the designs on the artefacts as inspiration.
3. Use the table below and a map of the United Kingdom to identify Anglo-Saxon place names. Explain what you think each place might have been used for or how it got its name. Visit The University of Nottingham – Key to English Place Names website to find out more about the origins of place names.

Anglo-Saxon word	Meaning	Modern suffix	Examples
burh	fortified place	-burgh, -bury	Canterbury, Banbury
denu	valley	-dean	Rottingdean
ham	farm or village	-ham	Clapham, Balham
ingas	son of	-ing	Hastings
leah	a clearing	-ly, -lay, -ley, -leigh	Henley, Bromley
tun	town	-ton	Sutton, Bolton

4. Use a range of historical source materials to research what everyday life was like in Anglo-Saxon or Viking Britain. Areas to research might include clothing, housing, food, culture and religion. Create a non-chronological report, blog or presentation to present your findings.
5. Imagine you are monk at Lindisfarne, who witnessed the Viking attacks on the monastery. Write a soliloquy explaining what you saw and include your thoughts and feelings about the attack. Record your soliloquy to share with the class.



6. Research a significant Anglo-Saxon or Viking figure from the list below and create a fact file or biography about your chosen individual.

Anglo-Saxon	Viking
Alfred the Great	Ivar the Boneless
King Offa	Guthrum
Lady Aethelflaed	Sweyn Forkbeard
Bede	Cnut the Great

7. When Edward the Confessor died, there were three main contenders for the throne: Harold Godwinson, Harald Hardrada and William, Duke of Normandy. Research each person's claim to the throne and write a paragraph to explain who you think was the rightful successor.
8. Use a range of resources to create a knowledge organiser about the Battle of Hastings. Include details about key dates, people and events and a paragraph to explain why this battle was so significant for England.
9. Finish your home learning by writing a summary of the topic, explaining what you have learned about invasion in the early Middle Ages.

Useful websites

BBC Bitesize – Anglo-Saxons

British Museum – The Anglo-Saxon ship burial at Sutton Hoo

British Museum – Decoding Anglo-Saxon art

BBC Bitesize – Vikings

CBBC Newsround – What happened at the Battle of Hastings?

Good reads

Title	Author	ISBN
The Anglo-Saxons, Vikings and Normans – Settlers and Invaders of Britain	Ben Hubbard and Anita Ganeri	9781474755047
Anglo-Saxons and Vikings – Usborne History of Britain	Hazel Maskell and Abigail Wheatley	9781409556107
I Was There – Viking Invasion	Stuart Hill	9781407197890
I Was There – 1066: The Norman Conquest	Jim Eldridge	9781407197852
Great Events – The Battle of Hastings	Gillian Clements	9781445131597

