

## Unit Title: Vikings: Ruthless Killers or Peaceful Settlers?

History  
Y5  
Spring 2

### End Points:

#### Change

- The Vikings were farmers and fishermen in their native lands. Over time through the development of better boats, a greater understanding of the sea and a need to access more natural resources and farm land the Vikings travelled from their homelands and invaded and settled in new locations such as the UK

#### Cause and Effect

- As above, the Vikings wanted to have access to more natural resources, precious metals and to be able to settle in new fertile lands where they could farm and bring up their families. This is the key reason behind them exploring, raiding and settling in new locations such as the UK.

#### Significance

- Its significant as its one of the biggest early invasions in Britain that was successful and resulted in large Viking settlements such as Jorvik.

### End of unit outcome:

- Why did the Vikings leave their homeland?
- Why did the Vikings settle in the location that they did?
- What was the significance of Jorvik to the Vikings?

Children carry out a debate and will confidently be able to say whether they believe the Vikings were ruthless killers or peaceful settlers and give reasons for their answer.

### Links:

Text – Arthur and the Golden Rope – Joe Todd-Stanton

The Last Viking – Terry Deary

Geography – Children will understand the living conditions in the Polar regions and the tundra (Y3)

Children will understand that people migrate to live in other countries (Y3, Y4)

History – children will know that people invaded Britain and that some of these settled

### Prior Learning:

Know the history of Britain from Stone Age to Anglo-Saxons (Y3, Y4)

Know that at this period in time Britain was under Anglo-Saxon rule (Y4)

Children will be able to make comparisons to previous Ancient Civilisations that have been studied  
Children will know that Britain has many natural resources which were considered valuable (Y3, Y4)

### Key Aspects of the Unit:

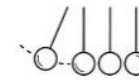
Skills:



Knowledge:



Concepts (end points):



### Key Knowledge:

- Children will know the Vikings were farmers and fisherman in their native lands
- Children will know why the Vikings explored and later settled in foreign lands
- Children will know that the Vikings were in search of natural resources and access to more fertile land
- Children will know the Vikings' first visit to Britain was to trade (Portland, Dorset in 787AD)
- Children will know that their subsequent visit was a raid on a monastery in Lindisfarne, Holy Island in 793AD
- Children will know about the Battle of Edington in 878AD
- Children will learn about Alfred the Great and his negotiations with Guthrum
- Children will know about Danegeld and Danelaw
- Children will learn the significance of York (Jorvik) to the Vikings
- Children will learn that the Vikings believed in many gods
- Children will know that Vikings were fearless in battle
- Children will learn that, after death, the Vikings believed they would go to Valhalla where they would feast and battle with the Gods
- Children will learn that the runes are Viking letters of the alphabet and they are related to letters in the English alphabet we use today.
- Children will learn that 4 days of the week are named after Norse gods that Vikings worshipped.

### Historical Skills:

- Use primary and secondary sources of evidence to draw conclusions about the past
- Understand how our knowledge of the past is constructed from a range of sources.
- Develop appropriate use of historical terms.

<b>Vocabulary</b>	
invasion	To enter another country with using force to take control.
archaeologist	People who work out our history by looking at artefacts that have been found.
raids	A sudden armed attack against it, with the aim of causing damage rather than occupying any of the enemy's land.
longhouse	A large hall like building where many Viking families would live together.
berserkers	Warriors that went to war wearing wolf or bear skins. They were out of control and charged fearlessly. The word 'berserk' came from it.
long ship	The narrow boat used by Vikings to raid along coasts.
Anglo-Saxons	The main group of people living in Britain when the Vikings invaded
Monastery	A place where people who have dedicated their lives to religion, such as monks or nuns live.
Saga	A long story told by the Vikings
Danelaw	The area in Britain that the Danish Vikings ruled over
Pagan	A person who believes in many gods
Rune	A letter from the alphabet used by Vikings