# Y3 History – Anglo Saxons and Scots





EDI

### Who were the Anglo-Saxons?

The Anglo-Saxons were made up of three groups of people from Germany, Denmark and The Netherlands. The groups were named the Angles, the Saxons, and the Jutes. The Angles and the Saxons tribes were the largest of the three attacking tribes and so we often know them as Anglo-Saxons. They all shared the same language but were each rules by different strong warriors.

Vocabulary	
Angles	People from Germany who invaded Britain around 410 A.D.
Anglo-Saxon	The name given to people who travelled from Germany and South Denmark
Migration	Movement from one place to another
Missionary	A person from a religion sent to spread faith in Christianity
Pagan	A religion that involves worshipping many gods and goddesses
Picts	Ancient tribes who lived in northern Scotland
Runes	An alphabet consisting of between 26- 33 letters used to write Old English
Settler	People who migrate to a new place and start a community there.
Saxons	German-Dutch tribes who settled in Britain from around 450 A.D.
Scots	People from Ireland, who like the Picts, were fierce and powerful fighters.



### Where did the Anglo-Saxons Settle?

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 and created settlements.

Each group of Anglo-Saxon settlers had a leader or war-chief. A strong and successful leader became 'cyning', the Anglo-Saxon word for 'king'. Each king ruled a kingdom and led a small army.

By around 600 AD, after much fighting, there were five important Anglo-Saxon kingdoms. They were Northumbria, Mercia, Wessex, Kent and East Anglia.

### What Made Britain Great

## Y3 History – Anglo Saxons and Scots

#### **Sutton Hoo**

Sutton Hoo is the site of an Anglo-Saxon king in Suffolk, England. It is very important to historians because it tells them a great deal about the wealth and traditions of early Anglo-Saxon kings.

On the site, archaeologists discovered that a huge wooden ship had been buried there in the AD 600s. The wood had rotted away, but it had left an impression in the soil showing the shape of the ship. Ship burials were common with people from northern Europe. A hut had been built in the middle of the ship. Inside it was a coffin and many priceless treasures. The Anglo-Saxons believed that this was the best way for a powerful person to reach the afterlife when he had died.

The treasures found by archaeologists the ship included armour, weapons, ornaments, siler and cold tableware, musical instruments and gold coins.





### What did they believe?

In Roman Britain many people were Christians. The early Anglo-Saxons were pagans (they believed in many gods).

In AD597 the Pope in Rome decided it was time that the Anglo-Saxons heard about Christianity. He sent a monk called Augustine to persuade the king to become Christian.

Over the next 100 years, many Anglo-Saxons became Christians and new churches and monasteries were built. Monasteries were the only schools in Anglo-Saxon England.

