

**Unit Title: Unit 13:
Invaders: Who left the
biggest legacy - Romans,
Saxons or Vikings?**

What should I know?

- Use a timeline to sequence events from British history
- Use and interpret evidence of the past through using eyewitness accounts, books, photos, buildings
- Recall key dates and significant events during the Roman, Anglo-Saxon and Viking eras
- Recall the names of significant people and explain why they were important
- Ask and answer questions e.g., "Who left the greatest legacy?"

What should I know by the end of the unit?

- Understand the chronology of Britain during the Roman, Anglo-Saxon and Viking era
- Know how Britain changed during this time
- Know about key events and people during this time
- Understand the legacy of these invaders and settlers in Britain

Key Knowledge

When and why did the Romans invade Britain?

The Romans first raided Britain in 55BC because **Julius Caesar** wanted to extend the Roman Empire but the Celts fought back. The Romans raided again in 54 BC with larger legions and the Celts were forced to pay tributes. In 43BC the **Emperor Claudius** was determined to make Britain part of the Roman Empire and started a successful invasion.

What did the Romans bring to Britain?

The Romans introduced the idea of living in big towns and cities. e.g. Londinium (London). They were famous for long, straight roads used to transport legions, trade and messages. The Romans built elaborately designed Roman baths and some of these remain today. Before the Romans came, very few people could read or write. The Romans wrote down their history, literature and laws. Their language was called Latin and we still have lots of words and phrases today that come from Latin. e.g. exit

When and why did the Anglo-Saxons invade Britain?

By 410 AD the last Romans had left Britain. Britain was invaded by tribes from Ireland (Scots), Scotland (Picts), Denmark (Angles) and Germany (Saxons). In 450 AD the first Saxons began to settle in Britain. The Anglo-Saxon period stretched over 600 years, from 410 to 1066 AD

What did the Anglo-Saxons bring to Britain?

Many areas, towns and villages in Britain are named after the Anglo-Saxons who first settled there. The Anglo-Saxon laws were very similar to some we have today, e.g. wergild was a payment system used to settle disputes between a criminal and the victim or their family. The Anglo-Saxons brought their own pagan religion, but the arrival of Saint Augustine in 597 AD converted most of the country to Christianity.

When and why did the Vikings invade Britain?

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 787 AD. The Vikings raided places such as monasteries and pillaged expensive items to trade. They invaded and settled in Scotland before heading south to places such as York. By 878 AD the Vikings had settled permanently in Britain.

What did the Vikings bring to Britain?

The Vikings brought their knowledge of art, craft and storytelling (Sagas). Their language is still evident today e.g. Thursday' itself comes from 'Thor', the Norse god of thunder.



**Key
Vocabulary**

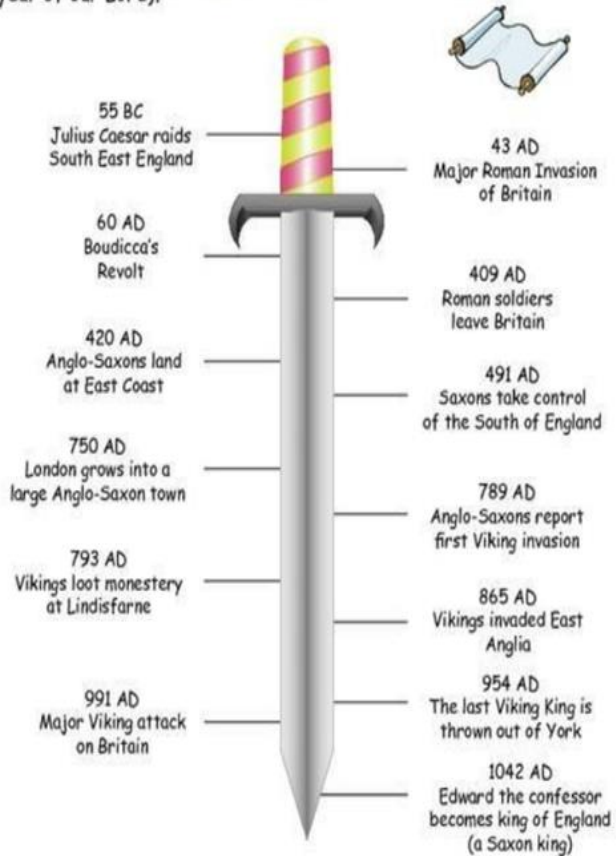
*Invasion
Roman
Empire
Emperor
Legions
Celts
Boudicca
Iceni tribe
Scots
Picts
Anglo-Saxons
Kingdoms
Pagans
Christianity
Wergild
Vikings
Longship
Raid
Pillage
Saga*

Making Links - Remember when you....

- Learnt in the 'We are Britain' unit about British invasions in time order - Romans, Saxons and Vikings and the Roman Emperor Julius Caesar
- Learnt in the "Castles" unit about the link between Caldicot castle and the Romans

History Timeline

BC stands for **Before Christ** and AD stands for **Anno Domini** (the year of our Lord).



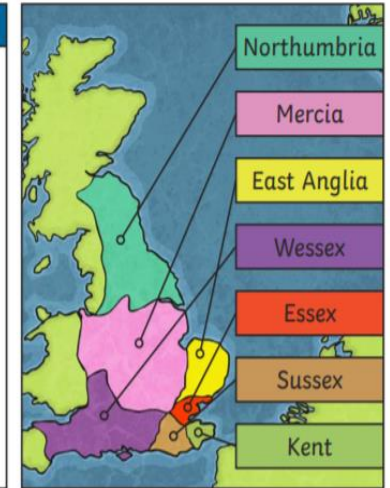
AD 60: Boudicca's Rebellion

The Romans decided that the **Iceni** tribe needed to start paying taxes but Queen Boudicca, the ruler of the tribe, refused to let this happen and formed an army to fight the Romans. Thousands of people died in these battles but the Romans eventually won.



Anglo-Saxon Kings

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.



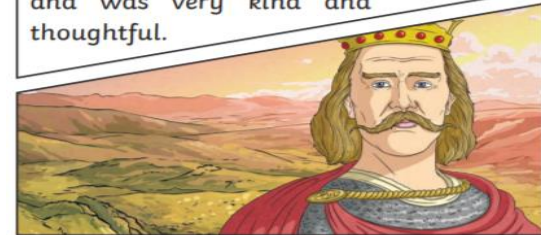
AD 122: Hadrian's Wall

The **Caledonian** tribes fought battles against the Romans who had tried to take their land. The Romans wanted a way to separate their land from the **Picts** so the Roman **emperor**, Hadrian, ordered a wall to be built to protect the Romans' land. The wall was 117km long with castles, guarded turrets, major forts, barracks, bathhouses and even hospitals.



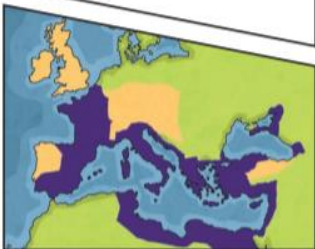
The Last Anglo-Saxon Kings

AD 1042 – Edward the Confessor became King. He was known as 'the Confessor' because he led a very religious life and was very kind and thoughtful.



AD 1066 – Harold II tried to stop Harald of Norway from invading England and killed him in the Battle of Stamford Bridge.

Map showing the **Roman Empire** in 44 BC



Map showing the **Roman Empire** in AD 305



Place Names

Place names give us clues as to who first settled in an area and what it was like.

Romans
-chester = castle
-caster = castle
-cester = castle
e.g. Manchester



Anglo-Saxons
-ham = village
-ton = farm
-ford = river crossing
e.g. Birmingham



Vikings
-by = village
-thorpe = farm
-toft = house
e.g. Scunthorpe

