

Curriculum Visions Academy

History

Who were the Vikings?

Book: Viking raiders and settlers

Pages 4-13

Students: Fill in the answers and return for assessment

Everything here is based on our Curriculum Visions book Viking raiders and settlers.

You can open this book online now by clicking on the book cover. It will open in a new window or tab.

In this segment, we are going to be introduced to the Vikings.

You will need to go to pages 4-5 of the book.

Part 1

Take a look at a map of the world and find places where Vikings came from. How do you think they got to Britain?

Answer ...

Students should draw lines from Denmark to eastern England and Norway to northern Scotland to the east coast of Ireland. You may like them to use the map on page 7 to help them, or to check what they have done.

The Vikings got to Britain in boats.

Now turn to pages 6-7 of the book.

Part 2

Why did the Vikings become good warriors?

Why did they raid Scotland and Ireland before other parts of Britain?

What are two places outside the British Isles where the Vikings travelled?

Answer ...

Answers may vary. Students should understand that the Vikings became warriors by fighting each other for resources.

Scotland and Ireland were the places that were nearest to where the Vikings came from.

The Vikings also went to the Mediterranean, Turkey, Iceland and North America.

Now turn to pages 8-9 of the book.

Part 3

Where does most of our knowledge of the Vikings come from? How was most Viking knowledge and stories passed on to other Vikings?
Why did Viking writing use mostly straight lines?

Answer ...

Most of our knowledge about Vikings comes from books written by the Anglo-Saxons or others who wrote about them in later centuries.

Most Viking knowledge and stories were passed on orally (using spoken stories).

They used straight lines because they carved or scratched words on stone or bone.

Part 4

Using a dictionary, search for words starting with sc or sk (or other common words) that have a Viking origin. Write down a few of the words you find here.

Answer ...

Students' own answers. Some words with Viking origins include: skin, sky, score, scale, scant, scare, scarf, scrape, scrap, scrub, scathe, and skill.

Now turn to pages 10-11 of the book.

Part 5

Complete pyramid below showing how the Viking kingdom was organised.

King



Jarl



thrall

Answer ...

King



Jarl



Landsman / chieftan



Warrior / bondi



Freeman / karl



thrall

Now turn to pages 12-13 of the book.

Part 5

Choose one of the Viking gods and research more about them. Write a short report or write the information you have learned here.

Answer ...

Students' own answers.

That is the end of this lesson, and you can now turn to another one. Also, find out if your teacher has left you any other worksheets or special instructions on your school website.

If you are interested in this topic continue to browse the book and watch our amazing videos. They start right on the book cover. Or you may want to go and hear the Vikings in action by visiting our 'fly on the wall' Eavesdrop section. You can hear what Vikings were actually saying. Just use our safe search and search 'Eavesdrop'.

Or you may need to see related books. If so just go to the top of the screen, select History and from the page that opens choose Vikings.

Remember, too, you can go to our safe search and type in any word about Viking times.