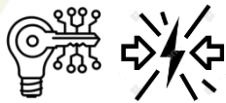


Year Five: The Anglo-Saxons

Knowledge Organiser



The Big Idea



The Anglo-Saxons also brought their own religious beliefs, but the arrival of Saint Augustine in 597 converted most of the country to Christianity. The Anglo-Saxon period lasted for 600 years, from 410 to 1066, and in that time Britain's political landscape underwent many changes.

When and why did the Anglo-Saxons invade?

After the Roman soldiers left around 410AD, there were many battles between Anglo-Saxons and Britons. More and more Anglo-Saxons arrived to take land for themselves. The time of the Anglo-Saxons is thought to have begun about 450AD.



Where did the Anglo-Saxons come from?



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.

Who were the Anglo-Saxons?

Anglo-Saxons built their own settlements with each village having a chief who protected the villagers. Anglo-Saxons worked hard farming the land and did not have a comfortable life.



How did they divide Britain when they invaded?

By about 550AD, Britain had been broken up into many small kingdoms each ruled by a different leader. The name England is derived from 'Angle Land' meaning land of the Angles.



What religion did the Anglo-Saxons follow?



To begin with, Anglo Saxons followed Pagan religions. In 596AD, the Roman Christian church sent missionaries to convert the Anglo-Saxons to Christianity. The missionaries were lead by a monk called Saint Augustine.

Who was Alfred the Great?

In 871 AD, Alfred became king of Wessex and made peace with the Vikings. Alfred managed to pay off the Vikings and keep the peace for five years but in 876AD a new leader of the Danish Vikings called Guthrum attacked Wessex.



Vocabulary

archaeologist Anglo-Saxon kingdoms shires shire reeve thane
Wessex witan or witenagemot wergild