Key Dates for Viking Timeline

This half term we will be studying the Vikings. Below are a series of key dates relating to the Vikings; their invasion and occupation of what is now the United Kingdom; their travels further afield and their subsequent demise. These dates are NOT in chronological order.

Firstly, you need to order these dates in chronological order. Secondly, you need to draw a timeline and present these dates on this timeline. For each date, you should draw a picture depicting the key event. This picture should be drawn to the standard expected in Year 6 and should be coloured in neatly and tidily with due care and attention given. You may use the Internet to help you with this; images, symbols, depictions of battles, images of rulers or images of artefacts may all be used as illustrations of these key events.

IN ADDITION, if you have access to the Internet at home, you may add to the information for each date on the timeline or if you prefer a smaller selection. I would like to see some evidence of your own research into these key events displayed on your timeline. Alternatively, if you so desire, can you identify any other key dates within the period covered that you think should be on your timeline? What evidence is there that your chosen date(s) should be included as a ‘key’ date(s) in the history of the Vikings.

Please use the A3 sheet (a spare has been supplied in case you make a mistake) included to draw your timeline. Your timeline should be:

* Presented either vertically or horizontally (the choice is yours) with the oldest date at the top or on the left of the timeline;
* You should alternate each date either side of the timeline (see modelled example below);
* Your timeline should be drawn using a ruler and the dates should be the same distance apart (there are 18 dates, so 2 cm apart would be 34 cm in length (17 gaps) for your timeline (you can include up to 21 dates, giving you a timeline of 40 cm (20 gaps) in length);
* All writing should be completed in pen; all illustrations completed in pencil.
* This activity should take at least 2 – 3 hours to complete to the standards expected in Year 6.

Video to watch: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o50HA6QTxj0>

Key Dates (not in chronological order):

* 793 AD: first reported Viking raids on English coast, at Lindisfarne, Northumberland;
* 841 AD: Vikings found Dublin;
* 871 AD: King Alfred becomes King of Wessex and defeats the Vikings;
* 866 AD: Alfred divides England with the Danes. The North and East are subject to their laws: Danelaw;
* 865 AD: ‘Great army’ of Vikings lands in England;
* 795 AD: Vikings begin attacks on Ireland;
* 911 AD: Charles the Simple ceded Normandy to Rollo;
* 954 AD: Erik Bloodaxe, last King of York is expelled;
* 984/5 AD: Greenland explored by Erik the Red;
* 866 AD: City of York (Jorvik) captured by Vikings;
* 1012 AD: the Danes raid Kent, burning Canterbury Cathedral and murdering the Archbishop Alphege;
* 1013 AD: the Danes conquer England, Aethelred II flees to Normandy;
* 1016 – 1035 AD: King Canute, a Dane, rules England;
* 1066 AD: Vikings defeated by King Harold at Battle of Stamford Bridge, near York;
* 1066 AD: King Harold defeated at the Battle of Hastings by William, Duke of Normandy (end of Viking occupation in England, beginning of the Norman period in British history);
* 870 AD: Viking settlers reach Iceland;
* 1000 AD: Leif Eriksson reaches North America, Iceland adopts Christianity;
* 1002 AD: Aetherlred II the Unready orders a massacre of all the Danes in England.

Happy timelining!

Model timeline

