

Invaders and Settlers: The Anglo-Saxons Knowledge Organiser

Learning Objectives	Core Knowledge
To learn what happened when the Romans left Britain.	The Romans left Britain in AD 410 to defend their own lands from attack. The Scots and Picts tried to invade Britain and the Britons couldn't defend themselves. The Britons asked Vortigern to bring warriors from Europe to help defend them. The Angles, Saxons and Jutes arrived and saw that the land in England was fertile and life was better than in their homeland, so they wanted to settle there. The Anglo-Saxons arrived and fought the Britons for land and resources.
To learn about everyday life for Anglo Saxons.	Anglo-Saxon society had a hierarchy, with a king at the top. Slaves were at the bottom of the hierarchy. Most Anglo-Saxons were farmers or craftspeople. They lived in homes made from wood with a single room and central fireplace.
To learn about the consequences of Anglo Saxons Britain.	The Anglo-Saxons first settled in the east and south of England, pushing Celtic Britons to the west. As the Anglo-Saxons settled, they created seven kingdoms in England. They were called the heptarchy and they fought between themselves for power. Over time, the seven Anglo-Saxon kingdoms merged into the five main kingdoms of East Anglia, Kent, Mercia, Northumbria and Wessex.
To learn about Christainity in Anglo Saxon England .	The Anglo-Saxons brought their own beliefs, gods and rituals to Britain. Christian beliefs were pushed aside until Irish and Roman missionaries, such as St Augustine, worked to convert the Anglo-Saxon kings and then ordinary Anglo-Saxon people to Christianity. As Christianity spread, many monasteries were built. Monks prayed, worked, studied and created artworks, such as manuscripts.



Glossary

Angle	A person from Germany who invaded and settled in parts of eastern and northern England.
Saxon	A person living in Germany during the Roman times. Saxons conquered and settled in the south of England after the Romans left.
Anglo-Saxon	They are descendants of the Angles, Saxons and Jutes.
Mercia	A kingdom in central Anglo-Saxon England.