

Crofton Junior School

History Knowledge Organiser – The Vikings (Year 5)



Unit of Work	History – Vikings: Sailors, Traders, Raiders and Beliefs
Text Driver the Unit of Work Links to	Beowulf; The Highwayman
Key Strand	Beliefs & Cultures Invasion & Settlement
Overview of the Unit of Work	Pupils will learn that while some may think of the Vikings as great sailors and explorers, it is as fierce warriors and raiders that they are often known. When the Vikings first appeared on the coastline of Britain, they did not come to conquer but to steal everything of value and return home. While they did colonise some of the lands they sailed to, their place in history will always be connected to these violent seaborne raids. The Vikings earned their reputation as vicious warriors, but they were also excellent traders. Setting out from Scandinavia, the Vikings established many trading colonies across Northern Europe.
Prior Learning & Vocabulary	Beliefs & Cultures – Year 4 Ancient Egyptians Invasion & Settlement – Year 4 Ancient Egyptians
Sticky Knowledge	<p>Pupils will learn about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Viking invasions including the Vikings attack on the holy monastery of Lindisfarne- churches and monasteries were prime targets for Viking raids. • The significance of the Viking longships: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The longship was an essential part of the Vikings' ability to travel and explore. - Longships were also perfect for raiding. - The Vikings' ability to defend themselves and their goods, which allowed them to maintain a trading empire that stretched across northern and western Europe. • How the Vikings were excellent sailors and very good at navigation. • How not all Viking expeditions were simple raids, and over time the Vikings began to colonise the places they sailed to. They brought their language and customs and changed the culture of the colonised societies forever. • The Vikings worshipped many gods. Each god had different human strengths and weaknesses.
New Vocabulary	Scandinavia: Norway, Sweden and Denmark

	<p>Explorers: people who travel to a new place to discover what is there</p> <p>Colonised: settled in a place</p> <p>Evidence: proof, information showing whether something is true</p> <p>Raid: enter a place to steal something</p> <p>Seaborne: carried on a ship</p> <p>Navigation: finding a way around</p> <p>Expedition: a journey undertaken by a group of people with a particular purpose</p> <p>Volatile: likely to change suddenly</p> <p>Descendant: relative from later generations</p> <p>Longships: a long, narrow warship, powered by both oar and sail with many rowers, used by the Vikings and other ancient northern European peoples.</p> <p>Invasion: an instance of invading a country or region with an armed force</p> <p>Settlement: a place, typically one which has previously been uninhabited, where people establish a community.</p>
<p>Post Learning</p>	<p>Beliefs & Cultures – Year 6 Ancient Greeks and Anglo-Saxons in Britain</p> <p>Invasion & Settlement – Year 4 Anglo-Saxons in Britain</p>