



# Invited or Invaded?



The **Anglo-Saxons** were a group of people who travelled to and inhabited (lived in) Great Britain from the 5th century. Originally they were called **Saxons** and travelled to Britain from countries such as Germany, the Netherlands and Denmark. When they had settled in Britain and had families, they became known as **Anglo-Saxon**. The word **Saxon** is derived from 'seax', which was a knife popularly used by the tribe.



**King Vortegern** was the King left in charge of Britain after the Romans left. The Romans left to defend their own empire in Europe. He asked for warriors from Jutland (Denmark) to defend Britain from further invasion from Picts (groups of people from Scotland). Don't forget you can use your previous knowledge about the Romans from year 3.

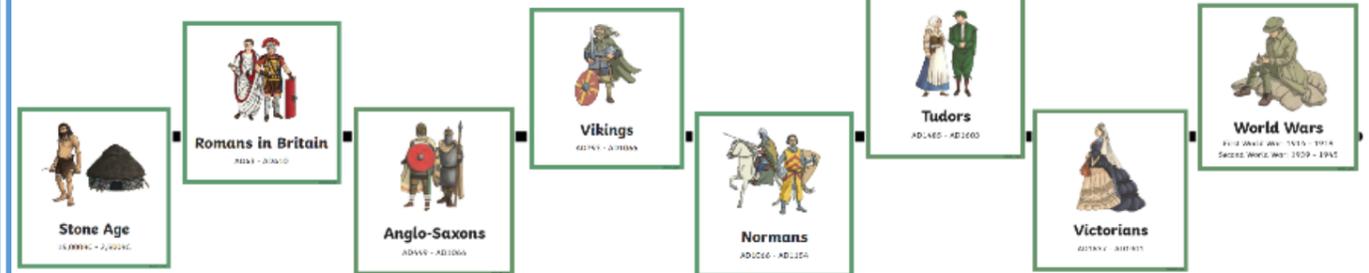


**King Athelstan** was the King of the Anglo-Saxons from 924-927AD. He was also King of the English from 927-939. He was the first King to unite all the kingdoms of Anglo-Saxon Britain. He is buried nearby in **Malmesbury Abbey**.



The Saxons travelled from Germany, Denmark and the Netherlands. We will be looking at these countries on maps and plotting their journeys to different kingdoms in Britain.

Why did the Saxons choose to settle in Britain? What impact did they have on their local areas? Which clues from the past can we still see now?



As the Anglo-Saxons began to settle, England was divided into 7 kingdoms, each with its own King.

The rulers of these kingdoms battled one another for land and control until they were all united by King Athelstan.

Within the kingdoms there were many villages. Village jobs included blacksmithing, woodworkers and many farming jobs. Some of these jobs were deemed as more powerful and important, which started causing a divide between different social classes.

*"Behaviour that's admired is the path to power among people everywhere."*  
~Beowulf



- Where did the Anglo-Saxons originate?
- Did all Anglo-Saxons arrive peacefully and where did they settle?
- Why did Saxons want to come to Britain?
- What can different sources tell me about the period of history?
- Are all sources reliable or can they tell different stories?



<b>primary sources of evidence</b>	Evidence created during the time being studied by the people of that time
<b>secondary sources of evidence</b>	Evidence created by other people based on primary evidence
<b>century</b>	A hundred years
<b>invade</b>	Attack to try to take land
<b>village</b>	A small settlement
<b>settlement</b>	A place where people make their homes
<b>kingdom</b>	An area ruled by a King or Queen
<b>religion</b>	Belief in some sort of god or gods
<b>evidence</b>	Proof of something
<b>artefact</b>	A historical object
<b>tribe</b>	Group of people of the same culture
<b>monk</b>	A man who has devoted his life to his religion and lives in a religious community



Famous People



Social Pyramid



Transport and Travel



Location



Food and Farming



Main Events



Vocabulary



Clues from the Past



Impact on the World