



Anglo-Saxons



Britain looked very different when the Anglo-Saxons came to our shores over 1600 years ago! Much of the country was covered in oak forests and many of the population lived in the countryside where they made a living from farming. Use the links below to find out more about this era in Britain's history.

Who were the Anglo-Saxons?

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zxsbcdm/articles/zq2m6sg>

http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/interactive/timelines/language_timeline/index_embed.shtml

<https://www.natgeokids.com/uk/discover/history/general-history/anglo-saxons/>

The Anglo-Saxons were a mix of tribes from areas of Europe that settled in Britain from around AD 410 to 1066.

What did Anglo-Saxon life look like?

Who was in charge?

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zxsbcdm/articles/zqrc9j6>

Use the interactive image to find out about the different roles people had in Anglo-Saxon society including the king, thegn (sometimes spelt 'thane'), ceorl (pronounced 'churl') and slaves.

Anglo-Saxon Warriors

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t-gUVHKR_qI

<http://www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/saxons/who.htm>

Anglo-Saxon warriors were known for being fierce and often fighting each other! Sorry girls, warriors in this time were men only.

Why and when did they come to Britain?

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zxsbcdm/articles/z23br82>

Use this link to look at some of the different groups / tribes who were fighting and living in Britain during the AD 400s and why they came to Britain.

Where did Anglo-Saxons live? What were their settlements like?

<http://www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/saxons/settle.htm>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/clips/znjoxnb>

We have set you some activities on Purple Mash which may also help you build a picture in your head about what Anglo-Saxon Britain looked like.

Sutton Hoo Burial Artefacts

Sutton Hoo is a burial ground where Anglo-Saxon artefacts were excavated. Some of the artefacts unearthed can be seen below:



How do we know about the Anglo-Saxons?

We know information about the Anglo-Saxons because of evidence they left behind which have been discovered by archaeologists and researchers.









Archaeology: the study of the lives of people in the past

Evidence: Information to support an idea or interpretation

Artefact: Any object made or changed by people

Interpret: To try and explain what something means

Excavation: To dig up and record archaeological remains

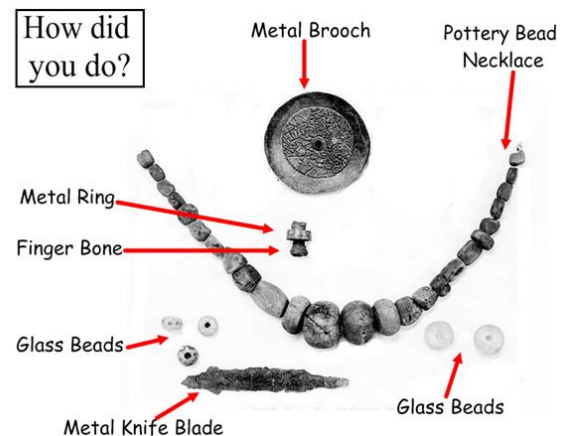
<u>Likely to survive</u> 1000 years	<u>Not Likely to</u> survive 1000 years
 Pottery	 Food
 Metal	 Wood
 Bones	 Fabric
 Glass	 Leather

Interpreting archaeological evidence

Looking at the **artefacts** from an excavation in Oxfordshire in 1890, we can interpret who could have owned these items and what they were like.

Remember.....

What you know	What you don't know
Wore a necklace	A Man or A woman?
Wore a brooch	What type of clothes? (Anglo-Saxons only had wool or animal skins to make clothes)
Wore a ring	What colour clothes? (Anglo-Saxons only had natural dyes)
Wore glass beads	Long hair or short?
Carried a small knife	



Look at this reconstruction drawing of what an Anglo-Saxon man and woman might have looked like



You need to complete the statement by circling the word or adding one of your own that best applies to your artefact.

It is made of	<i>metal / silver / gold / bronze / china / porcelain / wood / clay / paper</i>
It shows images of	<i>animals / people / rulers / gods / flowers / simple designs</i>
It is used	<i>to entertain / in a burial tomb / on a building / as a game / to show others what people looked like / in the home / as jewellery /</i>
It looks like it was	<i>expensive / not very expensive to make</i>
The artefact was found in	<i>Britain / Europe / Africa / Asia / Egypt / China / South America / the Middle East</i>

Alfred the Great

One of the most famous Anglo-Saxon kings was Alfred the Great – he is one of the only kings in British history to be called ‘Great’.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zxsbcdm/articles/z9tda6f>