

Where did life, as we know it today, begin?

★ Star Vocabulary ★

Angles - People from Germany who invaded Britain around AD 410.

Anglo-Saxon: The name given to the people who travelled from Germany and South Denmark and settled in Britain around AD 410.

Pagan: A religion that involves worshipping many gods and goddesses.

Picts: Ancient tribes who lived in northern Scotland.

Romans: The Romans invaded and settled in Britain for over 400 years, starting with their first successful raid in 54 BC.

Saxons: People from northern and central Germany who invaded Britain around AD 410.

Scots: People from Ireland who eventually settled in Scotland.

Invasion: To try and take over a place by force.

Anglo-Saxons (Y3) – How has Britain changed since the Stone Age?

Kingdom of Benin (Y5) - Who had the greatest impact on today's world?

Key facts

- By around 410 AD, the last of the Romans had returned home and left Britain vulnerable to invasions.
- The Picts and Scots were a constant threat to Britain especially without the Romans for support.
- Other tribes also invaded Britain including the Angles and Saxons, known as the Anglo-Saxons.
- Many areas, towns and villages in Britain are named after the Anglo-Saxons who first settled here.
- The early Anglo-Saxons were Pagans. They would worship gods during festivals and make sacrifices of objects and animals.
- In 597 AD, a Roman monk was sent to tell the Anglo-Saxons about Christianity.



Who were the Anglo-Saxons and where did they come from?

They were a mix of tribes from Germany, Denmark and the Netherlands. The three biggest were the Angles, the Saxons and the Jutes. The land they settled in was 'Angle-land', or England.

Why did the Anglo-Saxons come to Britain?

Britain needed help so King Vortigern invited some Anglo-Saxons to Britain to help defeat the Picts and Scots. However, when they did, they decided to invade and settle in Britain themselves. Some Anglo-Saxons were warriors who enjoyed fighting. They thought the Britons were weak and easy to beat without the Romans around.

Key Skills

- Note connections, contrasts and trends - across time but also between places and cultures.
- Select and use sources to construct their own opinions about the past.
- Start to critique other people's opinions about the past.

