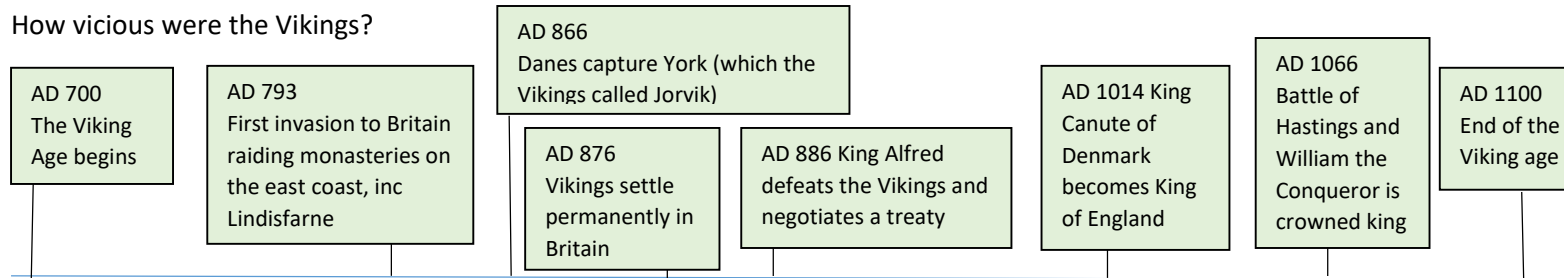


How vicious were the Vikings?



KEY CONCEPT:
Conquest (culture)

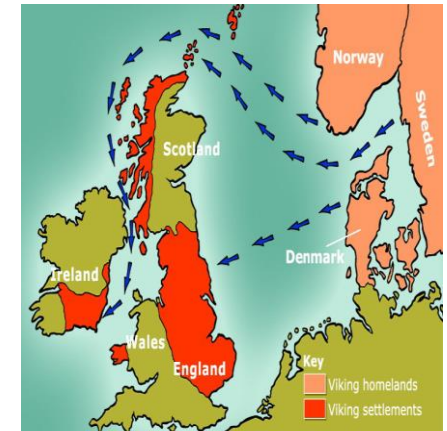
Key Vocabulary	
Anglo Saxons	The main group of people living in England when the Vikings invaded
Danegold	Money paid to Vikings to stop them from raiding
Danelaw	After the Viking defeat to King Alfred England was divided with the north and east declared Viking territory 'Danelaw'
Longship	A Viking ship used for fighting and carrying out raids.
Monastery	A place where people who dedicated their lives to God (monks and nuns) lived
Norsemen	The name given to people living in Scandinavia at the time (men of the North)
Pagan	A person who believes in many gods.
Plunder	Take loot during a raid often causing damage.

Key Figures	
King Alfred the Great (AD 849-899)	Alfred did a lot of great things for England including defeating the Vikings in several battles and keeping part of England under Anglo-Saxon rule.
King Canute (AD 995-1035)	Viking king of England, Denmark and Norway.
King Ethelred the Unready (AD 966 – 1016)	English king from 978 – 1013.
Edward the Confessor (AD 1003 – 1066)	Son of Ethelred and penultimate Anglo Saxon king of England
William the Conqueror (AD 1028-1087)	Became king of England in 1066 after winning the Battle of Hastings

Attack on Lindisfarne

In AD 793 the Vikings attacked a monastery at Lindisfarne in Northumbria. The Vikings were Pagans, not Christians like most people in Britain at that time. They did not think twice about raiding a monastery. The monks had no weapons and the buildings were filled with valuable treasures like gold, jewels and books.

Lindisfarne



The Vikings

The name Viking comes from a language called 'Old Norse' and means 'pirate raid'. People who went off raiding in ships were said to be 'going Viking'. Not all the Vikings were blood thirsty warriors. There were farmers who kept animals and grew crops and craft workers. Everyone lived together in a large home called a longhouse.

Invasion and Danelaw

Almost all the kingdoms of England fell to the Vikings apart from Wessex which was ruled by Alfred the Great. After the treaty (peace agreement) an imaginary dividing line was agreed across England. The Viking lands known as Danelaw were roughly to the east. The most important city in the Danelaw was Jorvik.

