History

Anglo-Saxons and Scots

Anglo-Saxons and Scots
The Invaders

twinkl

Aim

- I can describe why, where and when the Scots and Anglo-Saxons invaded Britain.

Success Criteria

- I can write sentences to show I understand why, where and when the Scots and Anglo-Saxons invaded Britain.

- I can label a map to show the Anglo-Saxon kingdoms.

- I can write about a character from history.

Goodbye Romans

Despite the increase in attacks on Britain from the Picts, Scots and Saxons, by around 410AD the last of the Romans had left Britain to go and defend their home territory as they were under increasing threat from external invaders. This meant Britain was left to its own devices for the first time in about 400 years of protection under Roman rule, the British were quite unprepared for fighting!

The Scots

The Gaelic speaking Scotti who came from Ireland were descendants of the Picts who had earlier invaded Ireland, around 200AD. Historians believe that these Irish Scots invaded and claimed land in Scotland in the 4th and 5th centuries.

- The Scots divided the land in Scotland into 4 separate kingdoms which were named Dal Riata, Pictland, Strathclyde and Bernicia.

- The Picts and the Scots were a constant threat to the Britons and it was even harder to fight them off without support from the Romans. They were described as 'foul' and with 'a lust for blood' by a historian from the time, named Gildas.

- They are said to have streamed over Hadrian's Wall killing everyone in their way.

Vortigern

The British King Vortigern was left in charge after the Roman armies left but he faced great difficulty organising troops to hold back the Picts and Scots who were very powerful and superb fighters. He worried they would take over in Britain.

In a bid to retain control and keep the Picts at bay, it is believed that Vortigern asked two brothers called Hengest and Horsa from Jutland (in modern day Denmark) to come and fight for him and keep the Picts and Scots out.

Hengest and Horsa

Hengest and Horsa were glad to oblige and the Picts and Scots were successfully held back. However the men liked what they found in Britain and decided that they wanted to stay and take land for themselves as it was rich and plentiful and the Britons could be easily defeated. They brought more warriors and over time the invaders began to settle around Britain pushing the Brits further and further out!

The Anglo-Saxons

The brothers and their warriors weren't the only ones who had their sights set on colonising Britain. Other Germanic tribes had also been invading Britain for some time, and without Roman protection they proved to be a formidable force against the Brits.

- These invaders are known to us as The Anglo-Saxons because the two biggest invading tribes were the Angles and the Saxons.

- Other invaders were the Jutes, Franks and Frisians. They came from the modern places of Germany, Holland and Denmark.
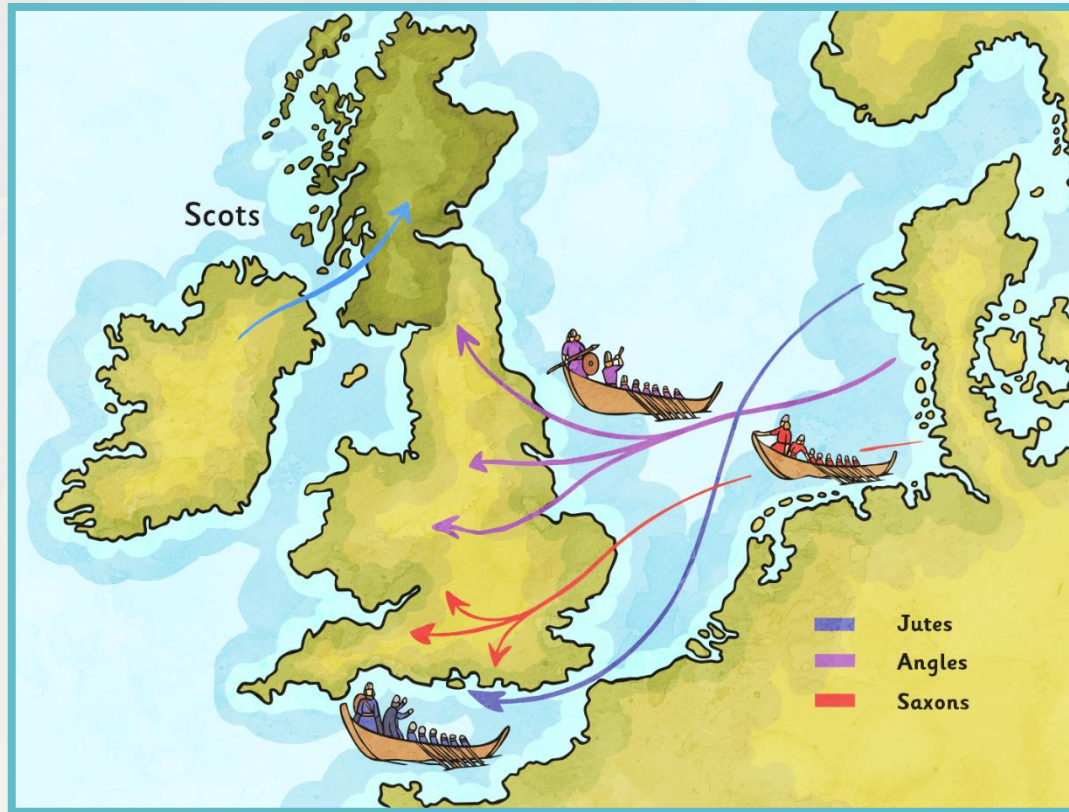
An Influx of Invaders

Look at this map with your partner.

Scots

Jutes
Angles
Saxons

Can you work out:

1. Where the invading troops came from?

2. What they were called?

3. Whereabouts in Britain did they settle?

4. Why did they not manage to take control?

Anglo-Saxon Kingdoms

British held territory

Northumbria

Mercia

East Anglia

Essex

Wessex

Kent

Sussex

The British fought hard against the Anglo-Saxons but by about 600AD they had either been forced to escape or had been taken as slaves.

Those who escaped retreated mainly to Wales and Cornwall. The rest of Britain divided into seven kingdoms:

1. Northumbria
2. Essex
3. Wessex
4. Sussex
5. Mercia
6. Kent
7. East Anglia

Scots and Anglo-Saxon Invasions
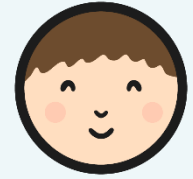
Activity

- Use the information you have learnt to write about the Scots and Anglo-Saxon invasions.

- Then label your map to show the seven kingdoms that Anglo-Saxon Britain was divided into.

Scots and Anglo Saxon Invasions

Use the information you have learnt to complete the sentences.

In around 410AD the _____ left Britain.

The _____ from Northern and Eastern Ireland invaded Scotland in the 4th and 5th centuries.

The Scots divided into four _____ called Dal Riata, Pictland, Strathclyde and Bernicia.

The British King who was called _____ asked Saxon brothers Hengest and Horsa to help him fight against the Scots and the _____.

Hengest and Horsa liked it in _____ and decided to stay so they sent for people from home.

We call these people who invaded and settled in Britain the Anglo Saxons because the two biggest groups were called _____ and _____.

| Saxons | Britain | Pics | Kingdoms |
| Scots | Romans | Angles | Vortigern |

Anglo Saxon Britain: The 7 Kingdoms

Can you remember the names of the 7 kingdoms that the Anglo Saxons divided Britain into?

Label your map with the place names. You can use maps or atlases to help you.

British held

Scots and Anglo Saxon Invasions

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We call these people who invaded and settled in Britain the Anglo Saxons because the two biggest groups were called _____ and _____.

Scots and Anglo Saxon Invasions

Use the information you have learnt and the notes you have written to help you to write sentences about the Romans, the Scots, Vortigern, Hengest and Horsa and the Anglo Saxons. Write using as much detail as you can.

The Romans
_____
_____
_____

The Scots
_____
_____
_____

Vortigern
_____
_____
_____

Hengest and Horsa
_____
_____
_____

The Anglo Saxons
_____
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Character Analysis
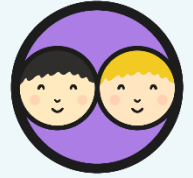
Activity

Can you use the knowledge you have learnt in the lesson and do your very own research to find out more about one of the characters from history, either Vortigern, Hengest or Horsa.

- Discuss the character with your partner. Decide what they might have looked like and how they would have felt about the events of the time.

- Draw your character and write some details about them.

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