**LO:To know who the Vikings were and where they came from and to understand why the Vikings travelled away from their home country and to find out where they went.**

**HOM: Thinking about Thinking.**

The Vikings lived between 800 and 1150AD. Look at the map below. Can you spot the UK?

Can you see Norway, Denmark and Sweden? The Vikings originated in this part of the world.



Read this paragraph.

The Vikings lived over 1000 years ago. The Vikings were Norse people who came from an area called Scandinavia. You might know it better as Norway, Sweden and Denmark.

The word Viking means ‘a pirate raid’, which is a fitting name as they were fearsome warriors and often raided monasteries for treasure.

But they weren’t all bad, bloodthirsty and violent - they also settled with their families and farmed the land peacefully for many years. They were farmers, and kept animals and grew crops. They were skilful at crafting, and made beautiful metalwork and wooden carvings.

Vikings sailed the seas trading goods to buy silver, silks, spices, wine, jewellery, glass and pottery to bring back to their homes.

Did you know they were great explorers too and travelled all over the world? Vikings explored as far away as North America. Can you believe they even travelled through Russia to trade in the Middle East. Amazing!

Ah, ‘The Thing’, an early version of today’s parliament. The Norse people met to discuss new laws and solve arguments. They’re arguing over who owns your shoes.

Plus, we still use some of their Old Norse language today. Words like ‘egg’, ‘muck’ and ‘dirt’.

Even some modern town names are based on Viking words! York and places that end in ‘thorpe’, ‘by’ or ‘kirk’. So for example, the Viking word for deer is “djúr” and village is ‘bȳ’ - together making “Derby”.

Watch these videos of the different jobs for Vikings.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/ztyr9j6/articles/ztqbr82>

Answer these questions:

***White Hat: Who were the Vikings and where did they come from?***

***Green Hat: What different roles did people have during this time?***

***Yellow Hat: What were the benefits of being traders /hunters / warriors/sailors etc.***

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Read this paragraph.

The first Viking raid recorded in the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle was around AD787. It was the start of a fierce struggle between the Anglo-Saxons and the Vikings.

The Vikings were pagans, not Christians like most people living in Britain at the time. They did not think twice about raiding a monastery.

Christian monasteries in Britain were easy targets for the Vikings. The monks had no weapons and the buildings were filled with valuable treasures, like gold, jewels and books.

There was food, drink, cattle, clothes and tools too – all very tempting to a Viking raider.

In AD865 an army of Vikings sailed across the North Sea. This time they wanted to conquer land rather than just raid it.

Over several years the army battled through northern England, taking control of the Anglo-Saxon kingdoms of Northumbria, East Anglia and most of Mercia.

By AD874, almost all the kingdoms had fallen to the Vikings. All except for Wessex, which was ruled by Alfred the Great. King Alfred beat the Viking army in battle but wasn't able to drive the Vikings out of Britain.

After years of fighting the Vikings and Alfred made a peace agreement. But even after this agreement, fighting went on for many more years. An imaginary dividing line was agreed to run across England, from London in the south towards Chester in the north west.

The Anglo-Saxon lands were to the west and the Viking lands, known as the Danelaw, were roughly to the east.

Answer these questions:

***White Hat: Which countries did Vikings settle in?***

***Green Hat: What were the different reasons why the Vikings settled in these places?***

***Yellow Hat: What benefits did the Vikings receive from travelling abroad?***

***Black Hat: What problems might the Vikings have caused for others abroad?***

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