

Voyagers of the North: The Viking Age

Grab your map and sharpen your wits! Join Ellie the Elephant on an expedition through history to discover the truth about the Vikings.

- The Vikings originated from the Scandinavian countries of Norway, Denmark, and Sweden. They travelled across the sea in shallow, fast ships called longships.
- The first major Viking raid in Britain took place in AD 793 at the monastery on the island of Lindisfarne.
- Vikings were skilled farmers and traders. They brought goods like amber, fur, and honey to sell in new lands.
- The 'Danelaw' was the name given to the part of England where Viking laws and customs were followed instead of Anglo-Saxon ones.
- Many Viking settlements grew into important towns that we still recognise today, such as York, which the Vikings called 'Jorvik'.
- Vikings told many stories called sagas, which were long poems and tales about their gods, heroes, and legendary adventures.

Did you know? Did you know? The Vikings were not just warriors; they were expert navigators! They travelled across the North Sea using the sun, the stars, and the migration patterns of whales to find their way across the open ocean without modern compasses.

Key vocabulary: Longship · Scandinavia · Settlement · Raids · Danelaw · Trade