

Vikings: The Brave Voyagers

Learning objective: To retrieve information from a text and make simple inferences about Viking life.

Read the text carefully. Use the word bank to help you understand the tricky words. Answer the questions in the boxes provided.

Long ago, people called Vikings lived in countries near the north of Europe. They were famous for being brave sailors. The Vikings built special boats called longships. These ships were long and thin, which helped them travel across deep oceans and up shallow rivers. Some Vikings were raiders who travelled to find new lands, gold, and food. Other Vikings were farmers who wanted to find good soil for growing crops. When they found a place they liked, they built a settlement. They lived in houses made of wood and mud. Inside, families kept warm by a fire in the middle of the room. They enjoyed telling stories, carving wood, and making jewellery. Even though they are often remembered for fighting, many Vikings spent most of their time working on farms or fishing in the sea. They were very clever at finding their way across the world using the stars. Nova the owl thinks they were brilliant navigators! They changed how people lived in Britain forever.

Word bank: Longship: A narrow, fast boat used by Vikings. · Voyage: A long journey by sea. · Raiders: People who take things from others. · Settlement: A place where people choose to live.

1. What was the name of the special boat that the Vikings built? (2 marks)

2. Name two things that the Vikings did besides fighting. (2 marks)

3. Why did the Vikings need a ship that was thin and long? (2 marks)

4. How do we know that Viking homes might have been smoky? (2 marks)

5. Do you think the Vikings were clever people? Give one reason why. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a Viking longship sailing on the sea. Add a dragon head to the front of the boat!



Extension challenge: Imagine you are a Viking arriving in a new land. Write three sentences about what you see when you step off your boat.