Ellie’s Viking Explorer Fact-File

Learning objective: To research and record key historical information about the Viking Age, focusing on their origins, daily life, and impact on Britain.

Use your history textbooks or approved digital resources to help Ellie the elephant learn more about the Vikings. Fill in each box with clear, accurate information. Remember to use full sentences and check your historical spelling.

Word bank: Longship · Scandinavia · Danelaw · Raids · Settlements · Runes · Trade · Norse · Monastery · Invasion

1. Origins and Geography: Where did the Vikings come from, and why did they start travelling across the sea to Britain? (3 marks)

2. The Longship: Describe the design of a Viking longship. Why was this type of vessel so important for their success as explorers and warriors? (3 marks)

3. Daily Life: What was life like for a Viking farmer or craftsperson? Mention the food they ate or the clothes they wore. (2 marks)

4. The Danelaw: Explain what the Danelaw was and how it changed the map of Britain during the 9th century. (3 marks)

5. Legacy: Choose one aspect of Viking culture (such as language, place names, or art) and explain how it still influences us in the UK today. (2 marks)

Extension challenge: Imagine you are a Viking trader arriving in Britain for the first time. Write a short, three-sentence diary entry from your perspective, describing the landscape you see.