



# Journeys

## History Y5: Vikings

### Vocabulary

**Aesir** A group of Viking gods who lived in a world called Asgard.

**Jorvik** The names of the most important town in Viking England, now called York.

**Invade** To attack a country with an army.

**Longhouse** The large shared house that Vikings lived in.

**Longship** A fast galley ship with a woollen sail that Vikings used for seagoing voyages.

**Raid** To arrive quickly and take anything of value by force, then leave.

**Viking** A Scandinavian warrior who lived at the times of the raids and invasions of the British Isles

**Scandinavia** The northern part of Europe including Denmark, Norway and Sweden

**Rune** Any letter of the Viking alphabet

### Links to prior learning:

Roman invaders (Y3)

Anglo Saxons (Y5)

### Links to other subjects in Y5:

**English** - Journey to Jo'burg

**RE** - Pilgrimages

### Key Facts and Knowledge

**Who were the Vikings and where did they come from?** The Vikings were a people who came from Scandinavia – Denmark, Norway and Sweden. They were farmers and fishermen who became traders and warriors.

**When were the Vikings in Britain?** The time between 707 and 1050 is known as the time of the Vikings.

**Why did they come and where did they settle?** The Vikings travelled thousands of miles from their homelands for better land, more land and for treasures. Initially they settled in northern Scotland and eastern England, also establishing the city of Dublin in Ireland

**Travel:** The Vikings had advanced sailing and navigational skills. They were aided by their longboats which were long, narrow wooden vessels. These could be sailed in both deep and shallow water.

**Religion:** The Vikings were pagans, worshipping many gods. The main Viking gods were Thor, Frey and Odin.

**Language:** The Vikings spoke in a language called Norse and had their own alphabet system made up of symbols called Runes. Runes were considered to be sacred. Originally there were 24 symbols but this was later expanded. Vikings scribed on wood, bone and stone.

### Map of Viking routes



Viking longship



Viking Runes



Vikings begin attacks on Britain 707

Viking settlers establish Dublin 840

Vikings establish kingdom in York 866

Leif Erikson explores the coast of North America 1000

The Vikings are defeated at Stamford Bridge 1066