



Year 5 and 6 Knowledge Organiser - Anglo-Saxons



Exciting books!



Key vocab		The Anglo-Saxons were the descendants of three different tribes who invaded Britain after the Roman army left Britain in 410 CE. The Angles and the Saxons came from what is now Northern Germany and the Jutes came from Denmark. The land they conquered was split into small kingdoms and the new invaders brought their own building methods, religious beliefs and language. During their rule, Christianity spread as monks from Rome came to England. Living in almost constant conflict, the Anglo-Saxons ruled large parts of England until 1066, the year that England was conquered by William, Duke of Normandy, after his victory at the Battle of Hastings.	
descendants:	relatives from later generations	Sticky knowledge	
conquered:	took control of by force		
stability:	being unlikely to change		
collapse:	complete end	After years of stability and peace under Roman rule, the collapse of the Roman Empire brought chaos and conflict to Britain.	Early Anglo-Saxon Britain was made up of many different tribes, with their own leaders, chiefs and kings.
chaos:	confusion	The Celtic tribes, who had lived in harmony with the Romans, found themselves under attack from northern tribes (the Picts and Scots).	The separate kingdoms were frequently in conflict with each other, and by the beginning of the seventh century, there were seven major Anglo-Saxon kingdoms including Northumbria, Mercia, East Anglia, Wessex and Kent.
upheaval:	big change	They asked the Anglo-Saxons to protect them from these fierce warriors. The Anglo-Saxons agreed, in return, for land that they could settle on.	Sometimes a king would try and lay claim to the title of Bretwalda (King of all Britain), and the overall control of Anglo-Saxon kingdoms often changed.
consequences:	results or effects	Gradually, the Anglo-Saxons took control and by the ninth century, ruled over four main kingdoms: Northumbria, Mercia, East Anglia and Wessex.	The Anglo-Saxons played a significant part in England's journey to becoming a Christian country.
independent:	on its own	In 927, these four kingdoms were united under the rule of one king, King Athelstan and the Kingdom of England was created.	One of the most important archaeological sites from the Anglo-Saxon era is the burial site at Sutton-Hoo in East Anglia.
allegiance:	support of a person or group	Christianity first arrived in Britain during the time of the Romans but it was several hundred years before it became the main religion in England.	The Anglo-Saxons wrote some of England's earliest works of literature, including the epic poem Beowulf.
medieval:	the period of European history between 476 CE and 1500 CE	The invasion of Jutes, Angles and Saxons following the departure of the Roman army, marked the beginning of centuries of significant upheaval in Britain.	410: Roman army left Britain 597: St Augustine brought Christianity to Britain from Rome 601: King Ethelbert of Kent converted to Christianity 793: Monastery at Lindisfarne raided by Vikings 927: Kingdom of England created
legacy:	something left behind after death	Large numbers of tribes fought for control of the land they had colonised and they all had to face the consequences of Viking invasion. What started as small raiding parties soon became an almost total conquest of the Anglo-Saxons by the Vikings.	

