Year 4: Were the Vikings Raiders or Settlers?

HISTORICAL CONTEXT







The Vikings eventually settled down on

land they had seized in eastern and north-

ern England. Sometimes, the Anglo-Saxons

gave them land to stop the Vikings from

attacking them. In AD 878, Alfred the

Great made a peace deal with the Vikings

which split England into Anglo-Saxon and

Viking-controlled areas. The Viking area, known as Danelaw, was settled and

peaceful.

SETTLERS









RAIDERS

The Vikings raided England in the summer when it was easier to cross the sea. They stole valuable items from monasteries and villages and they enslaved people before returning home.

This demonstrated bravery– a characteristic they rated highly.



How did the Vikings Travel?

Vikings travelled in longboats. They needed to be narrow so they could fit along seas and rivers and move if there was an obstacle. They had to be good at surprise attacks.



TRADERS

Using longboats, the Vikings established trading routes throughout Europe and as far as America, Iraq and Jerusalem. They sold items like timber, wheat, wool, fur and fish, spices, wine, jewellery, silk and glass.

KEY VOCABULARY



BALANCED: Considering all views in a fair way.

BIAS: allowing personal opinions to influence a viewpoint.



CAUSE: Something that makes an event happen.

CONSEQUENCE: The result of an event.

DANELAW: An area of northern and Eastern England that was under the control of the Vikings.

LONGBOAT: A long, narrow Viking boat powered by oars or sail.

ONE-SIDED: A viewpoint which only shows one side of an argument.





VIKING: A group of Scandinavian people who lived in the eight to eleventh centuries.