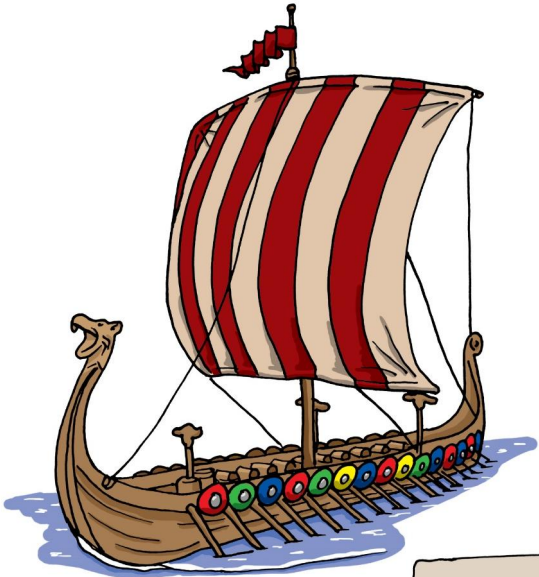


## Who Were The Vikings and Where Did They Come From?

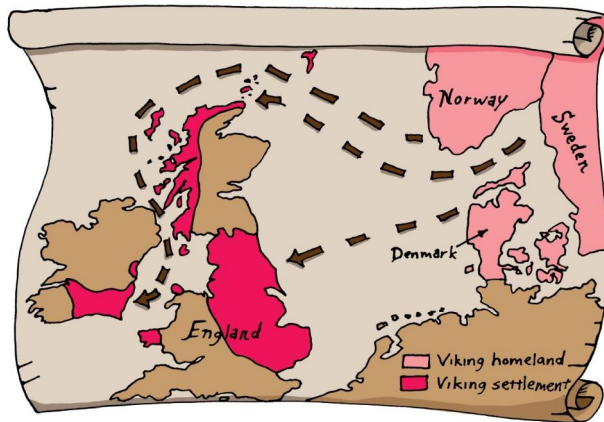
The Vikings came from countries that we now call Norway, Sweden and Denmark. This area is called **Scandinavia**. These were countries that were **surrounded** by sea and covered in forests. The Vikings lived near the coast and were farmers, fishermen and **craftsmen**.

The Vikings were '**Norsemen**'. Norsemen means men of the north.



### They Travelled By Ship

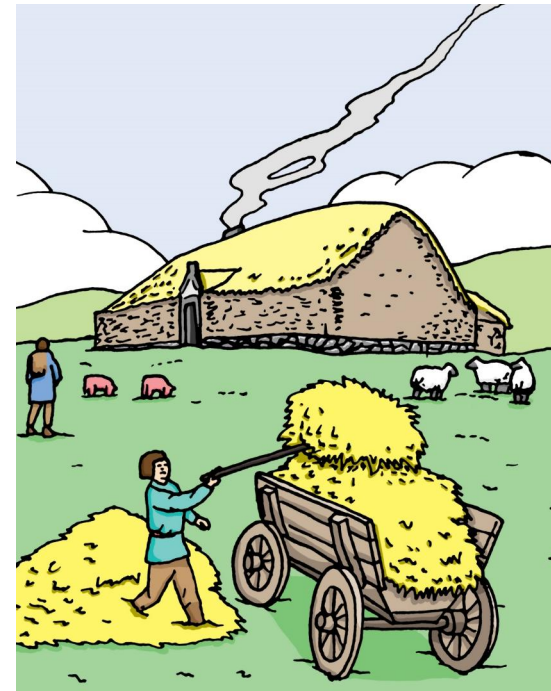
Vikings wanted **fame** and **wealth**. They got both of these things by **raiding** other lands. The Vikings were **exploring** and raiding for about 300 hundred years. They travelled across the seas in ships called **longships**. They raided for money, treasure and **slaves**. They also went looking for new places to **settle**.



This map shows the different places the Vikings travelled to.

classroomsecrets.com

Who Were the Vikings and Where Did They Come From? – 2a – Text



### Farming and Fighting

If a Viking wanted to raid, they needed to own a ship. This meant that they would need some money. Most Vikings **owned** their own land, with a wife who could run their farm while they were away, and enough slaves to keep the farm going.

Most of the men on a Viking ship were young. They wanted to make some money so that they could become famous one day.

### Vikings Crafts

Viking **smiths** made tools, weapons, plates and jewellery. They used iron, lead, gold and silver. They also made silver coins, which were used for trading.



### How Do We Know About the Vikings?

We have learnt lots of information about the Vikings from **graves**, **burial ships**, and **hoards** of buried treasure. **Historians** also wrote about their **conquests**. Viking **myths** have also been passed on by storytellers.

By Lisa Wheatley

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Who Were the Vikings and Where Did They Come From? – 2a – Text

Who Were The Vikings And Where Did They Come From? – Follow-Up Work

Where did the Vikings come from? (AF2)

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What does Norsemen mean? (AF2)

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Why did the Vikings raid? (AF2)

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What type of text is this? How do you know? (AF4)

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What features does it have? (AF4)

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Why is the heading a question? (AF6)

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Choose one word to describe a Viking. Explain why you have chosen that word.

(AF5)

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Would you have liked to have been a Viking? Explain why? (AF3)

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What would it have been like to travel on a Viking longship? (AF3)

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Do you think that Vikings preferred farming or raiding? Why? (AF3)

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Why have some words been written in purple? (AF4)

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Can you think of any reasons why the Vikings might have wanted to settle in Britain? (AF3)

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