

# THE ANGLO-SAXONS

Year 4

History



By around AD600, after much fighting, there were 5 important Anglo-Saxon kingdoms. They were Northumbria, Mercia, Wessex, Kent and East Anglia. Sometimes they got along, sometimes they were at war with each other.

## Alfred the Great

Alfred the Great is the only English monarch to have 'the Great' after his name. This may be due to him having a reputation as a clever and merciful ruler who really wanted to improve the lives of his people.

## Stone Age Books

Anglo-Saxon Boy by Tony Bradman

Beowulff by Michael Morpurgo

How to be an Anglo-Saxon by Scoular Anderson

Winter of the Wolves by Tony

Bradman

## Key Vocabulary

**Bayeux Tapestry**-68 metres in length it tells the story of the Norman Conquest of England in 1066, particularly the battle of Hastings, which took place on 14 October 1066.

**Bede** - an English monk and historian who chronicled the Anglo-Saxons conversion to Christianity.

**Beowulf** - is an Old English epic poem consisting of 3,182 alliterative lines about a Scandinavian king.

**Fyrd** - a group of warriors.

**Invaders** - a group of people who attack and attempt to take over others land.

**Kingdoms** - an area ruled by a King or Earl which had its own laws.

**Lyre** - a small harp played at Anglo-Saxon festivals.

**Mail shirt** - armour made from chain mail worn on the upper body.

**Monk** - a male member of a religious group following a set of rules.

**Offa's Dyke** - a large linear dyke running between Wales and Mercia named after the King of Mercia, King Offa.

**Pagan** - the Anglo-Saxons worshipped lots of different gods and did not follow one of the main religions.

**Runes** - the Anglo-Saxon alphabet.

**Sutton Hoo** - an Anglo-Saxon ancient burial site.

**Settlement** - A group of dwellings (homes) that form a community.

**Warrior** - a person trained to fight in battle.

**Warrior** - Anglo-Saxon warriors fought on foot during battles. They carried spears, axes, swords, and bows and arrows. They wore helmets and carried shields that were usually made of wood.