

Key Vocabulary

Anglo-Saxons - The name given to the Angle, Saxon, Jute and Frisians tribes that came from North Germany, Denmark and the Netherlands.

Burhs - Anglo-Saxon fortification or fortified settlement.

Christianity - A religion that believes in one God, based on the life and teaching of Jesus Christ.

Chronicle - Factual writing about historical events in the order they occurred.

Heptarchy - Refers to the 7 kingdoms of Northumbria, Mercia, East Anglia, Essex, Sussex, Wessex and Kent.

Invasion - invading a country or region with an armed force.

Kingdom - A territory ruled by a king or queen.

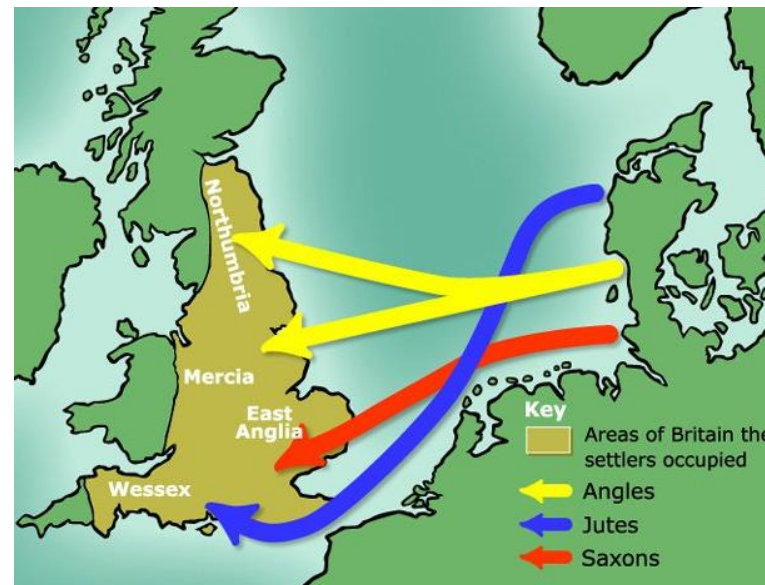
Monastery - a building occupied by a community of monks.

Paganism - A religious practice where people believed in many gods; each Anglo-Saxon pagan god was linked to an area of daily life.

Settlement - the process of establishing settlements, living communities.

Shire - An area of local government now called a county.

Where did the Anglo-Saxons come from?



Daily life of the Anglo-Saxons

- The landscape was very different with most of the land being covered with forest.
- Many Anglo-Saxons were farmers, some were craftsmen.
- Most people in Anglo-Saxon England lived in villages near resources like water. Their homes were made of wood, wattle and daub, and thatched roofs. They were usually a single room with space for a fire.
- Christianity spread during the later Anglo-Saxon era.
- People had hobbies like storytelling and crafts.

The 7 Anglo-Saxon kingdoms (Heptarchy)



How do we know? - Primary evidence

- Writing from around the time such as the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle.
- Archaeologists in 1849 discovered West Stow, a whole village and cemetery.
- Ship burial on land in Suffolk with a great king onboard.
- In 1939 archaeologists uncovered Sutton Hoo, a burial site with helmets, armour, coins, dishes, and drinking horns.

