















# WHO WERE THE ANGLO-SAXONS?

<b>Who were the Anglo-Saxons and why did they settle in Britain?</b>	
 <p>410 AD Roman rule in Britain ends</p>	<p>They invaded to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fight</li> <li>• Farm</li> <li>• Make new homes</li> <li>• Vortigern invited the Jutes to help him defend Britain against the Picts and Scots.</li> </ul> <p>Britons and Anglo-Saxons didn't always fight. They lived together peacefully in some places.</p>
 <p>459 AD Angles and Saxons invade</p>	 <p>~ 600 AD Angleland or England is divided into 7 Kingdoms.</p>

<b>Why can't we believe everything that is written about the Anglo-Saxons?</b>	
<b>Gildas</b> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a monk in the 500s</li> <li>• wrote about events that took place 100 years before</li> <li>• didn't consult others</li> </ul>
<b>Bede</b> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bede the Venerable</li> <li>• a monk around 730</li> <li>• wrote about events in the 400s.</li> <li>• used the writings of Gildas but also used other sources</li> </ul>
<b>Anglo-Saxon Chronicles</b> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• started in 890</li> <li>• added to every year to include significant events</li> <li>• ordered by King Alfred and written by monks</li> <li>• Several copies, several versions- no originals survive</li> </ul>

<b>How do we know what happened during the Anglo-Saxon era?</b>		
<b>Artefact</b> 	<p>Man-made objects that tell us about the past. Often found when digging.</p>	<p>Many Anglo-Saxon artefacts have rotted as they were made from natural materials.</p>
<b>Source</b>	<p>Anything that gives us information about history.</p>	<p>Photo, quote, report, recording, painting etc.</p>
<b>Primary source</b>	<p>From the time</p>	
<b>Secondary source</b>	<p>Interpreted or recorded after the time</p>	

<b>How and why did Christianity become the dominant religion in Britain?</b>			
<p>Anglo-Saxons like the Celts were pagans. They had many gods and they believed in the power of nature. They became Christian because their King was a Christian.</p> <p>Today Britain's current monarch is still a Christian and the Head of the Church of England.</p>		 <p>563 AD Columba goes to Iona.</p>	
 <p>597 AD Augustine comes to spread Christianity</p>	 <p>616 AD First Christian Saxon king</p>	 <p>Augustine builds Canterbury</p>	 <p>Aiden builds Lindisfarne</p>

<b>Where do these events fit into Britain's history?</b>	
	

<b>What was life like in an Anglo-Saxon village?</b>	
<b>Settlements:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Anglo Saxons avoided the cities and towns left by the Roman</li> <li>• Mainly farmers they preferred smaller settlements to grow crops, keep animals</li> <li>• Lived in family groups</li> <li>• Small piece of land called a hide</li> <li>• Stockades to protect the village</li> </ul>	 
<b>They lived near natural resources:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Forests – for fuel and building</li> <li>• Rivers – for water, washing, cooking and travel</li> </ul>	
<b>Houses:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mainly made from wood</li> <li>• Wattle and daub</li> <li>• One room house for family and animals</li> <li>• No windows, houses built facing the sun for heat and light</li> <li>• Hole in the thatched roof</li> <li>• Large fire in the middle – cooking and heating</li> </ul>	
<b>Chieftain:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Large house in the middle of the settlement</li> <li>• Often made of stone</li> <li>• Had a meeting hall for feasts and celebrations.</li> </ul>	