

## LKS2 History. Cycle 2. Autumn 1- Alfred the Great and the Saxons.



### Focus of study and historical context.

- The period of Anglo-Saxon colonization of middle ages Britain between 425 and 1066, with a focus on one of its great leaders- Alfred the Great.

### Know that/how:

- Know that Anglo-Saxon Britain was first split into 'Seven Kingdoms' then 'Four Kingdoms', then two.
- Know that Alfred the Great was the first Anglo Saxon king to rule large swathes of Britain, including Wessex, Sussex and Kent.
- Know that the period when Alfred was alive was a confusing time with two main warring civilisations trying to rule Britain- Anglo-Saxons, Vikings.
- Know how he prevented all of England falling under the power of the Vikings.
- Know how he promoted literacy and learning among noblemen through the use of English.
- Know that he made available more books that were written in English rather than Latin.
- Know how he kept Welsh and Mercians (Midlanders in the area around modern-day Birmingham, and Nottingham), on his side.
- Know that he designed and promoted an important book of laws used to rule the land, organized its finances and ended 'blood feuds'.
- Know that his drive for learning and literacy may have led to the forming of one of the greatest books about Anglo-Saxon times- The Anglo-Saxon Chronicles- a great source of knowledge about those times.
- Know how his rule affected the political organization of the land that would become known as England.

### Glossary:

- Anglo-Saxon:** Overarching name given to peoples who came to Britain in the early middle-ages from the area of Northern Europe that is now covered by Northern Germany, parts of Denmark and the Netherlands (Holland).
- Middle-Ages:** Period in British history from roughly 450CE to 1500CE.
- Vikings:** Modern name given to groups of peoples who, in the early middle ages, originated in what is modern day Scandinavia and eventually competed with the Anglo-Saxons for control of Britain.
- Blood feud:** A way of gaining justice in early Anglo-Saxon Britain. The wronged family could take revenge on their alleged attackers.
- Anglo-Saxon chronicles:** A collection of historical records, in Old English, that tell the history of the Anglo-Saxons in Britain.
- Diplomacy:** The peaceful skill of solving problems/arguments between competing groups of people.
- Treaty:** An agreement between two sides to stop fighting.
- Danelaw:** Area of early middle-ages Northern and Eastern Britain controlled by the Vikings.
- Latin-** The language that the Ancient Roman spoke/wrote in and brought to Britain.
- Old English-** A name given to the language that the Anglo-Saxons brought with them to Britain which was spoken and gradually also replaced Latin in written documents.

