



London Colney Primary and Nursery School – Knowledge Organiser

Name of Topic	The Anglo Saxons and Scots	Year Group	5
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Key Vocabulary and Spellings		
1	Saxons	a member of a people that inhabited parts of central and northern Germany from Roman times
2	invasion	a large number of people or things that move into a place
3	village	a group of houses, situated in a rural area.
4	Ard/plough	a large farming implement drawn over soil to prepare it for planting seeds.
5	tanner	a person who converts animal hides into leather.
6	cure	To preserve meat by salting, drying or smoking.
7	pagan	Non-Christian who worships many gods
8	omen	An event regarded as a sign of good or evil.
9	colonise	To settle among and establish control over the indigenous people of an area.
10	black smith	a person who makes and repairs things in iron by hand.

— Jutes
— Angles
— Saxons

The Anglo-Saxons positioned their villages near a water source, such as a river or lake, which would provide drinking water and fish to eat.

The chief of the village lived in a larger house in the centre of the village. This house might also contain a meeting hall.

Fields for growing crops were ploughed over to prepare them for planting. Oxen would pull a basic plough which was called an ard.

Livestock was kept in the village. Children would often be responsible for looking out for wolves, which were wild in Britain during the Anglo-Saxon times.

Family groups lived in smaller village houses.

Some buildings were reserved for specific purposes, such as a space for performing a craft like weaving or as storage units.

Pots made from clay were fired (dried out and hardened) on a large open fire.

Celts	Romans	Saxons	Vikings	Normans	Tudors	Victorians
500 BC	43	450	793	1066	1485	1837

Top 5 Topic Facts	
1	Anglo-Saxon place names give us clues about the original settlement. For example, -ingham means village and -wich means farm.
2	The Anglo-Saxons were very superstitious. They believed in magic spells, lucky charms and dragons.
3	Most Anglo-Saxon homes only had one room - people worked, ate and slept in one place.
4	Most Anglo-Saxons were farmers. Families lived in small villages and grew produce on the land around them.
5	Alfred the Great (AD 871 - AD 899) managed to stop Viking invasion and had a reputation for being a clever and merciful king who really wanted to improve the lives of the people.

Key Investigations/Questions	
1	How did the Anglo Saxons influence place names that we have today?
2	What was everyday life like for the Anglo Saxons?
3	What can Anglo-Saxon artefacts teach us about their culture?
4	What religious influences did the Anglo Saxons have?