

# Year 4 Autumn 1: What happened in Britain after the Romans Left?

## Sticky Knowledge

The Dark Ages describe the centuries after the end of the Roman rule. It is a time in history we have less evidence from. It is the time in history when the Saxons and Vikings came to Britain.

The Anglo-Saxons were made up of three tribes: the Angles; Saxons; and, Jutes.

The name 'Angles' eventually became 'English' and their land became 'England'.

They came to Britain from across the North Sea in the middle of the 5<sup>th</sup> century.

For a long time, England was not one country, Anglo-Saxon kings ruled lots of small kingdoms across the land.

The Anglo-Saxons were fierce people who fought many battles, including fighting each other.

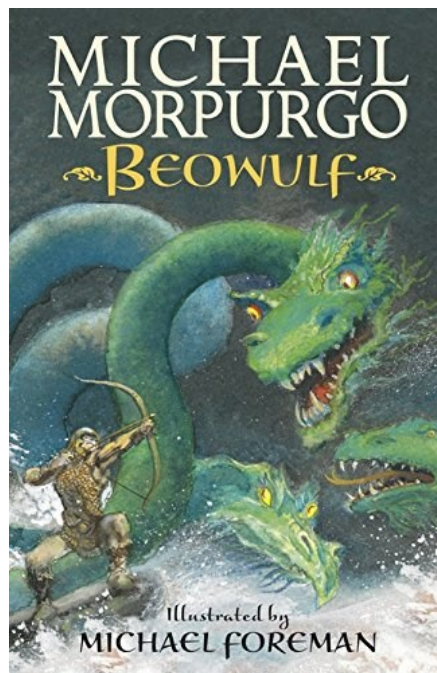
The villages were built near natural resources. The villagers needed food, water, fuel for heating and cooking and materials for their homes and clothes. The natural resources had to provide the villagers with what they needed to survive.

The Anglo-Saxon period ended when the Normans conquered Britain in 1066.

Anglo-Saxons name for towns was burh. The word 'burh' still appears in place names in Britain - Peterborough and Scarborough are two examples.



## Key Text



## Topic Vocabulary

Archaeologist	People who work out our history by looking at artefacts that have been found.
Anglo-Saxon Kingdoms	During their time in Britain the Anglo-Saxons formed many kingdoms.
Shires	Saxon lands were divided into shires, which helped to make up the counties we have today
Shire reeve	The peace officer of a shire, later known as 'sheriff'.
Thane	An important Anglo-Saxon person.
Legacy	Anglo-Saxons left a legacy which included the language we speak, culture and politics. Many of the shires are our boundaries for counties today.
Wessex	Known today as Dorset, Hampshire, Somerset and Wiltshire.
Wittan or Witenagemot	A council that helped the Saxon king rule.
Wergild	A fine imposed for stealing or killing.
Churl	A lower-class Anglo-Saxon but better than a slave.
Mercia	Known today as The English Midlands