

- 1 Read the first paragraph about the Vikings and circle the places they visited on the map.



THE VIKINGS

RAIDERS, TRAVELLERS OR BRAVE EXPLORERS?



The Vikings sailed the seas, attacked towns and stole treasures all over Europe between the years 800 and 1100. They started from Scandinavia and attacked many countries in Europe. They settled in Britain, Ireland and France. They also crossed the Atlantic Ocean and arrived in Iceland and Greenland. They discovered North America but they also travelled east to Russia and south to Arabia.

They were good farmers and excellent shipbuilders. They used their ships for wars. They also used them to carry people and goods to new lands. In winter, when there was not much farm work to do, they stayed at home and did other interesting jobs. Men made swords to use them in battles. The Vikings liked swords so much they often decorated themselves with gold and gave them names. Women cooked food and made clothes, shoes and jewellery for them, their children and their husbands. The Vikings believed in many gods and goddesses. Their

favourite was Odin, the god of the dead!

In 866 the Vikings captured an Anglo-Saxon town. They called it Jorvik and it was the capital of the Viking kingdom for 200 years. They made Jorvik rich and one of the most famous cities in Britain. Some years ago, archeologists discovered part of that Viking town in York, the modern city of Jorvik. They found many things such as jewellery, coins and clothes. If you ever go to York and you want to travel back in time and see how the Vikings lived, visit the Jorvik Viking Centre!



Adapted from Wilson, D. M. (1987) The Vikings, Activity Book, British Museum Press

Pictures from Maynard, C. (1996) Viking Times, Kingfisher

- The Vikings were and
a. pirates b. sailors c. farmers
- In winter
o men
o womenand
- Their favourite god was
- was the capital of their kingdom.
- The name of the museum in York is

Exercise 1

Words:

1. carry
2. gods
3. capture
4. gold
5. shipbuilders
6. kingdom
7. food
8. swords
9. discover
10. sail
11. jewellery
12. coins
13. treasures

Definitions:

- a. caught someone or something
- b. a shiny, yellow metal
- c. long, sharp weapons used in battles
- d. valuable things that are special or important
- e. travelled on a boat using the wind
- f. things you eat to stay alive and healthy
- g. found something new for the first time
- h. a country ruled by a king or queen
- i. pretty objects made of gold, silver that you wear
- j. move something from one place to another
- k. powerful beings believed to have control over life
- l. people who build boats and ships
- m. small, round pieces of metal used as money

Exercise 2

shipbuilders, sail, gold, swords, captured, gods, kingdom, carry, food, discover, treasures, coins, jewelry

1. He will _____ the boat on the lake.
2. Pirates search for _____ buried on islands.
3. I want to _____ new places when I travel.
4. _____ construct boats.
5. They _____ heavy bags.
6. Knights use _____ in battles to fight enemies.
7. The pirates found a box full of _____ coins.
8. Let's pack some _____ for our picnic.
9. She wore beautiful _____ to the party.
10. Ancient people believed in many _____.
11. The police will _____ the thieves soon.
12. The king ruled over a _____.
13. People used _____ to buy things long ago.



Exercise 3

shipbuilders, sailed, gold, swords, captured, gods, kingdom, carry, food, discovered, treasures, coins, jewelry

The Vikings _____(1) the seas, attacked towns and stole _____(2) all over Europe between the years 800 and 1100. They started from Scandinavia and attacked many countries in Europe. They settled in Britain, Ireland and France. They also crossed the Atlantic Ocean and arrived in Iceland and Greenland. They _____(3) North America but they also travelled east to Russia and south to Arabia.

They were good farmers and excellent _____(4). They used their ships for wars. They also used them to _____(5) people and goods to new lands. In winter, when there was not much farm work to do, they stayed at home and did other interesting jobs. Men made _____(6) to use them in battles. The Vikings liked swords so much they often decorated themselves with _____(7) and gave them names. Women cooked _____(8) and made clothes, shoes and _____(9) for them, their children and their husbands. The Vikings believed in many _____(10) and goddesses. Their favourite was Odin, the god of the dead!

In 866 the Vikings _____(11) an Anglo-Saxon town. They called it Jorvik and it was the capital of the Viking _____(12) for 200 years. They made Jorvik rich and one of the most famous cities in Britain. Some years ago, archeologists discovered part of that Viking town in York, the modern city of Jorvik. They found many things such as jewelry, _____(13) and clothes. If you ever go to York and you want to travel back in time and see how the Vikings lived, visit the Jorvik.

Exercise 4

Questions:

1. Where did the Vikings start their attacks from?
2. Which countries did the Vikings settle in during their attacks?
3. What were some of the jobs that Vikings did during winter when there was less farm work?
4. Who was the favourite god of the Vikings?
5. What did men often decorate themselves with and give names to?
6. What did women do for their families in Viking society?
7. What city did the Vikings capture and turn into their capital for 200 years?