What was Viking life like and why did the Vikings invade Britain?

Subject Specific Vocabulary

archaeologist	People who discover our history by looking at artefacts that have been found.
raids	A sudden armed attack with the aim of causing damage rather than occupying any of the enemy's land.
vicious	To be intentionally harmful or nasty. Vikings warriors were known to be vicious.
longhouse	A large hall-like building where many Viking families would live together.
berserkers	Warriors that went to war wearing wolf or bear skins. They were out of control and charged fearlessly. The word 'berserk' came from it.
longship	The narrow boat used by Vikings to raid along coasts.
Odin	One of the most famous Viking Gods known for wisdom.
Scandinavia	The name given to a collection of countries: Denmark, Norway and Sweden.
Jorvik	The Viking name for the city of York. York now has a famous Viking museum called Jorvik.
Danelaw	The name given to lands in Britain occupied by the Vikings.
misconception	This means mis-understanding. In Viking terms there were many misunderstandings about the Vikings.

Exciting Books



Days of the week

The names for most of the days of the week originate from Vikings.

Monday – linked to the moon by the name Mani – Norse for Moon.

Tuesday named after the Viking God of War – Tyr.

Wednesday – named after Odin and known as Woden's Day.

Thursday – named after Thor, the God of thunder.

Sticky Knowledge

Vikings were in Britain between 700 to 1100

Not all Vikings were warriors. Many came in peace and become farmers, living more like Celts than Romans

Vikings invaded Britain for:
1) better land
2) more land
3) treasures to make them rich



