



Key Vocabulary	
archaeology	The study of things that people made, used, and left behind.
Kingdom	An area ruled by a king or queen.
artefact	a man-made object, such as pieces of art or tools, that is of particular cultural, historical or archaeological interest
Settlement	places where people live and sometimes work.
Excavation	To carefully dig up the ground in the hope of finding an artefact
Angles	Tribes from an area today known as modern day Denmark that settled in Britain from around AD 450. They were one of the tribes that became known as the first Anglo-Saxons.
Saxons	A tribe from the north coast of Europe, especially Germany, that settled in Britain from around AD 450. They were one of the tribes that became known as the first Anglo-Saxons.
Invaders	People who enter an area and take control of it by force.
Primary source	an original document or other material that has not been changed in any way

The Romans Leave Britain

By c. AD 410, the last of the Romans had left Britain. This made Britain vulnerable to invasion. The warriors that **invaded** became known as the first Anglo-Saxons. Most of Britain was divided into seven Anglo-Saxon **kingdoms**.

The **Picts** and **Scots** were a constant threat without Roman support.

- 1 Northumbria
- 2 Mercia
- 3 East Anglia
- 4 Wessex
- 5 Essex
- 6 Kent
- 7 Sussex



Living in Anglo-Saxon Britain

The Romans preferred living in towns but the Anglo-Saxons preferred to live in small villages.

Anglo-Saxon influence can be seen in place names in Britain today. Wessex was a place named after the West **Saxons** who settled there. Sussex was named after the South **Saxons**.

The **kingdom** of Mercia (which means border people) was named Mercia because it had so many borders with other **kingdoms**.



Alfred the Great



Became King of Wessex in 871 AD and stopped the Vikings taking control of Britain.



410 Roman rule in Britain ends	449-550 Arrival of Jutes from Jutland, Angles from South of Denmark, and Saxons from Germany	556 Seven Kingdoms are created	597 St. Augustine brings Christianity to Britain from Rome and becomes archbishop of Canterbury	789 First Viking raid	793 Viking raid on Lindisfarne	871 King Ethelred and his brother Alfred defeat the Viking army at the Battle of Ashdown	876 Vikings from Denmark, Norway and Sweden settle permanently in England	886 King Alfred the Great defeats the Vikings but allows them to settle in Eastern England (the Kingdoms of York and East Anglia)	901-937 Eastern England (Danelaw) is conquered by the English	1042 Edward the Confessor becomes king
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