



WORLD BOOK WEB

The Vikings – Explorations and Conquests Scavenger Hunt

Learn about the explorations and conquests of the bold and adventurous and often brutal and fearsome Vikings.

Search for the Vikings article in World Book Online Student or Advanced and answer the following questions.

1. Why do scholars think the Viking Age started?
2. Vikings from which modern Scandinavian country started the Viking Age?
3. Why was Ireland an attractive target for Norwegian Viking raiders?
4. Which North Atlantic country did Norwegian settlers migrate to?
5. Who sailed with his family to Greenland?
6. How did Bjarni Herjolfsson become the first known European to see the mainland of North America?
7. Who led an expedition to North America?
8. What was the name of the Viking colony in North America and where do historians believe it was located?
9. How do historians know that Vikings were on the mainland of North America?
10. When and where did the Danish Vikings begin their raids?
11. Who did the Danes conquer in 865?
12. Who was Alfred the Great?
13. What was the treaty of St. Clair-sur-Epte and what were the conditions?
14. Who brought England under Danish control in 1016? How long did the Danes rule England?
15. When did the Swedish Vikings begin raiding?
16. Where did the Swedes set up trade centres?
17. What were the Swedish Vikings called by East Slavs?
18. What influence did the Norseman have on England?
19. What influence did the Norseman have on France?
20. What influence did the Vikings have on Iceland?

To learn more about the Vikings see the *Related Information* tab located at the top of your screen.

Answers: The Vikings – Explorations and Conquests Scavenger Hunt

1. Scholars link the start of the Viking rampage with several conditions in Scandinavia at the time. These include the rapid population growth in Scandinavia which led to overcrowding and a shortage of farmland. Family feuds and local wars also made life in Scandinavia difficult. Raiding and conquering provided many Vikings with a means to obtain wealth and honour.
2. Norwegian Vikings began the Viking Age with the attack on the monastery of Lindisfarne on an island off England.
3. Ireland's many fertile farms and rich churches and monasteries made it an attractive target.
4. Iceland.
5. Erik the Red in about 982.
6. Bjarni Herjolfsson made the sighting of North America when he sailed off course during a voyage from Iceland to Greenland.
7. Leif Eriksson, a son of Erik the Red.
8. Vinland. Some historians believe that Vinland is Maine or Massachusetts in the United States. Others think Vinland was the Canadian island off Newfoundland.
9. The main evidence of Vikings' presence on the mainland of North America come from remains of a Viking settlement found at L'Anse aux Meadows, Newfoundland, in 1960. Foundations, like those of Vikings in Iceland and Greenland, were found along with several small Viking objects.
10. The Danish Vikings began their raids in the early 800's on the coasts of Belgium, France, and the Netherlands.
11. In 865, the Danes invaded England and conquered all the English kingdoms except Wessex.
12. Alfred the Great was the king of Wessex, he won major victories against the Vikings in 878 and 886 and forced the Vikings to withdraw to the eastern third of England.
13. The treaty of St. Clair-Sur-Epte was between King Charles III of France and the Viking chieftain, Rollo. According to the treaty, Rollo accepted Christianity and pledged to support the French king. In turn, Charles granted the Vikings control of much of the area in France now known as Normandy (Land of the Northmen).
14. Canute brought England under Danish control. The Danes ruled England until 1042.
15. The Swedish Vikings began to raid towns along rivers in eastern Europe during the early 800's.
16. The Swedes set up trade centres in part of modern-day Russia, Belarus, and Ukraine.
17. Rus.
18. The Viking invasions of England in the 800's and 900's helped unify and strengthen England. William the Conqueror, a Norman, led a Norman victory over the English and he became king of England in 1066.
19. The establishment of Normandy in France in 911 was the source of years of conflict between France and England.
20. The Vikings had a lasting effect on Iceland. They established a permanent settlement there that reflects Viking culture to this day.