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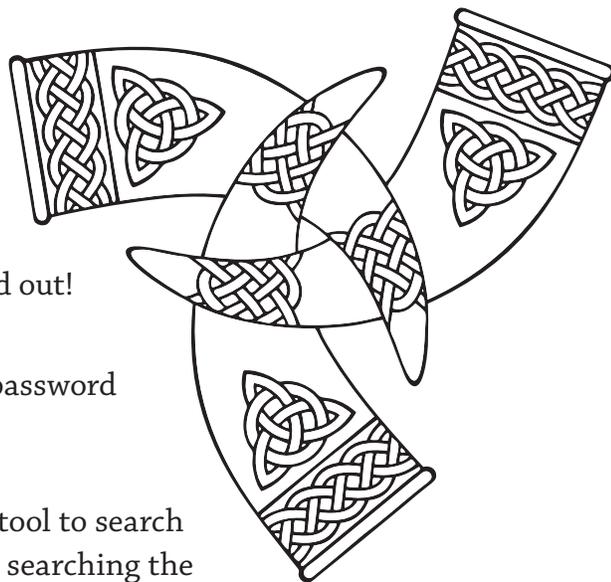
Name: _____ Date: _____

The Vikings: Daily Life

Viking crews sailed off each spring “to go a-viking”—to raid or trade (or both) in search of wealth and adventure. However, many Vikings remained at home. Others lived in Viking trade centers or settlements established as a result of voyages to distant lands. What was it like to live in a Viking village? Let’s find out!

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Find It!

Find the answers to the questions below by using the “Search” tool to search key words. Since this activity is about Vikings, you can start by searching the key word “Vikings.”

Write the answers on the lines provided or below the question.

1. Vikings came from the region of northern Europe known as Scandinavia. Today, this region

includes the modern nations of _____,

and _____.

2. How long ago did the ancestors of the Vikings move to Scandinavia?

3. Few Scandinavians of the Viking Age spent all their time going a-viking.

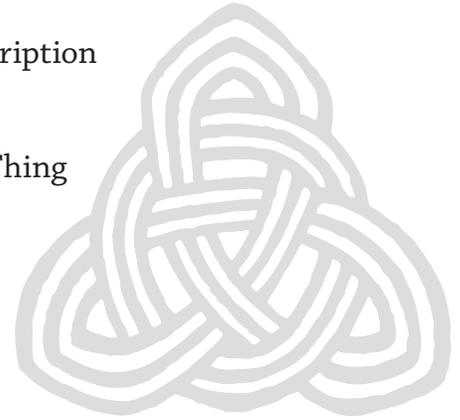
The majority worked as _____.

4. What led a large number of people in Scandinavia to leave their homes to seek wealth or a new place to live during the Viking Age?

***Users of the “Advanced” database can find extension activities at the end of this webquest.**

Lose It!

Which of the answers to the questions below **do not** belong in a description of the Vikings? Circle the answer to eliminate.



5. Each Viking community had a “Thing” (pronounced “ting”). The Thing
 - a. had more authority than a king or chief
 - b. determined when to go to war
 - c. was made of icy snow
 - d. was a governing council
6. Viking women
 - a. had more rights than women in other European societies
 - b. could decide for themselves who to marry
 - c. could own land
7. The Vikings ate with
 - a. knives
 - b. forks
 - c. spoons
8. What foods did hunters and fishers supply for the Viking communities in Scandinavia?
 - a. deer
 - b. whales
 - c. herring
 - d. turkeys
 - e. cod
9. Vikings usually built their houses with
 - a. bricks
 - b. stone
 - c. wood
 - d. straw
10. A Viking burial could include:
 - a. being buried in a boat or full-sized ship.
 - b. being buried with many possessions.
 - c. being buried with living pets and slaves.
 - d. being buried next to the grave of an enemy.
11. Men wore trousers and a long-sleeved pullover shirt that reached below the waist. Women wore long, loose-fitting dresses. What was most Viking clothing generally made of?
 - a. wool
 - b. leather
 - c. cotton
 - d. linen

12. Viking warriors wore
 - a. armor made of layers of animal hide
 - b. helmets with a cattle horn on each side
 - c. coats of chain mail
 - d. metal helmets



Match It!

Draw lines to match each word below with its definition.

- | | |
|--------------------|----------------------------------|
| 13. fiord | a. a court poet |
| 14. knorr | b. a common design in Viking art |
| 15. skald | c. a Viking trading ship |
| 16. gripping beast | d. deep coastal inlet |

Unscramble It!

Stories about the gods of the early Vikings are related in Norse mythology. Writers have borrowed characters and plots from Norse mythology all the way into the 21st century. Can you unscramble these names and match them to their definitions? Do any names sound familiar?

RHOT YRFE JFEEYR DINO GRAADS LLLAVHAA

17. _____ chief of the Norse gods and goddesses
18. _____ god of thunder and lightning
19. _____ and _____ twin gods, the god of agriculture and fertility and the goddess of love and fertility
20. _____ home of the gods
21. _____ a hall where Vikings went if they died fighting. There, they could fight all day and dine all night.

Find It!

22. What were the three social classes of Viking society?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

23. Where did the slaves in Viking society come from?

24. Who sat in the “high seat” in a Viking home?

25. Honor was important to Vikings. If one family member was disgraced, the entire family was _____, even the _____.



26. When did the Viking chieftain Rollo adopt Christianity?
(Hint: Find out more in the article about Rollo.)

27. Why did the King Charles III grant Rollo land in France as his own and did the King’s plan work? (Hint: Find out more in the article about Rollo.)

See It!

In the Vikings article, find the picture labeled “L’Anse aux Meadows National Historic Site.”

28. Examine the picture of a reconstructed Viking house. Based on the description of Viking housing in the “Viking” article, draw a diagram of what the inside of the house might look like.

29. Imagine living in a Viking house. What would be some advantages of its design?
What would be some disadvantages?

Viking Art

30. In the “Vikings” article, find the photograph of a Viking picture stone. Pick out three items illustrated on the stone, and describe how they are representative of Viking society.

Item	What makes it “Viking”
1. _____	_____
2. _____	_____
3. _____	_____

31. The Vikings were skilled woodcarvers. What type of carvings did they favor for the upraised “prow” (front end) of a warship?

32. The Vikings used an alphabet made up of characters called _____.

33. What is a saga?

34. What have historians learned from the works of Snorri Sturluson, the great Icelandic poet and historian who lived shortly after the end of the Viking Age? (Hint: For this question, see the Snorri Sturluson article.)

Extension Activity 1:

Vikings created intricate designs to decorate their jewelry, homes, ships, and wagons. Based on the examples and descriptions of Viking art in the article, draw a picture or object decorated in the Viking style.

Extension Activity 2:

The Viking picture stone shown in the article dates back to about A.D. 900. Write a saga to tell a story about the images on the stone. Consider the following questions before writing your saga: Who are the main characters? What conflict must they overcome? What is the outcome of the main character’s (or characters’) situation?

