

The Invasion of Lindisfarne

Teachers Notes

The following worksheets are aimed at KS2 pupils - there are 3 ability levels with each level there are 2 parts or chapters of the story exploring a) Norsemen and b) Lindisfarne.

These worksheets are a guide and maybe adapted for your own situation.

They have been offered for you to use in conjunction with a creative exploration of the story and have not been designed to be used in isolation but ideally to be part of a discovery of the life at this time.

Norsemen

Philosophy:

Discussions:

What 'battle' was for. Who gains and were there any positive outcomes from this particular battle. How did the invasion of the Norsemen affect the lives of those living in England?

Will there always be battles and wars?

Discuss other kinds of battles - at home!

Comparisons can be made of the two different countries and the problems that they both share and the problems that affect only one or the other country.

Suggested Mantle of the Expert: A BBC documentary film crew or perhaps

'A cold case unit'

documentary film unit

The archaeologists

The producer,

The director

The diggers,

The recorders,

The story tellers

The film makers

The warriors

The monks

The villagers

One child from the Island and one a child from Norway.

The props person

Cold Case Unit

constables,

forensic scientists

det. inspector.

The aim of each mantle is to put together various findings and to try to make a story of what could have happened on this battle-ground.

Findings: buried in a box of sand.

A glass bead necklace

A piece of wood from a long-boat.

A piece of a silver axe head made by the children.

A mock up of the stone engraved with fighting men holding up their axes.

(This stone is in the museum on Lindisfarne).

A leather bag with a few relics inside (bones have to be sterilised).

Charred remains of some willow (used to make the houses)

The story

A page from the Lindisfarne Gospels

The children will enjoy trying to make sense of their findings themselves with the aid of teachers taking roles (ghosts from the past etc.)

Teachers Notes

Role play.

- Make a cardboard mock-up of the longboat for the children to play and work with during the term.

Design Technology

- Making a boat that floats has a sail that can move over a specified distance. Design and make a Viking Shield.

Maths

- Make a fish rack – ordering numbers

Dance

- The Battle can be re-enacted through dance. Possible music: Lord of The Rings - Film Trilogy by Howard Hughes
- There is quite a lot of music here to listen to but you will find that there is music to fit sea crossing and sea monsters, wild dancing, fear and fighting.
- Imaginary swords can be used - or play swords or cardboard mock ups made from carpet tubing.
- Individual or group dances - choreographed by the children.
- Crossing the North Sea
- The dance of a Berserker
- The frightened boy
- The struggles
- All children together with formal part of dance - choreography by the teacher.
The departure and the aftermath.

Art

- Large group painting of a rough sea with the longboat and sea-monsters.
Tear strips of blue and white paper in wavy lines to make the sea.
- Grand fight scene with added figures from the children.
- Illuminated letters

English

- A. A poem based on a part of the story stuck on to cut outs of a helmet (no horns please).
List of words that can be used suggested by the children.

- B. Criteria ideas preferably suggested by the children. Eg.

- A gripping beginning.
- Cliff hangers. Beginning, middle and end.
- From one persons point of view.
- Decide minimum length.
- Has to be finished by a certain time.
- Written in lines in poetic structure.
- To be read out aloud to class or to each other.

Music

- Use some parts of the poems to make songs. Repetative lines in the rhythm of the sea.
- Fighting cries – using the instruments to make a conversation between monks and the Norsemen (Suggest of following the ABCB Structure)
- Try using two poems mixed together to make one song.
- Try putting one sound on top of another so that the different cries overlap on different notes.

Useful Website links

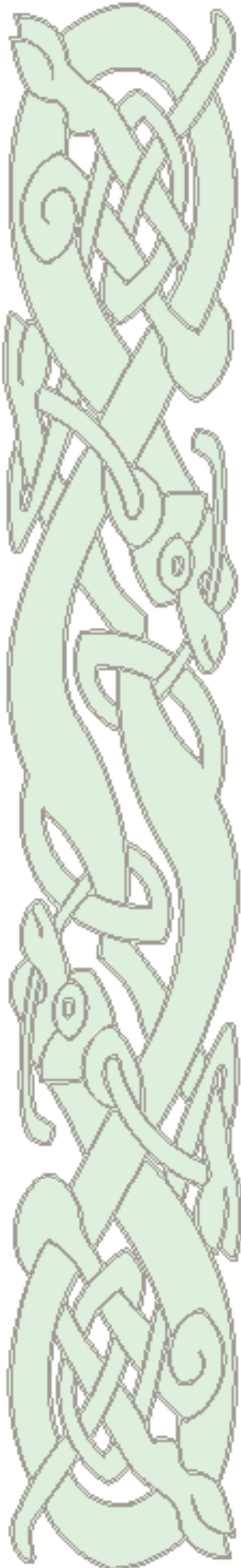
<http://www.expedia.co.uk/pub/agent.dll>

<http://www.regia.org/life/glass.htm>

<http://www.angelfire.com/realm/shades/vikings/berserker.htm>

A game for the children to play on line.

http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/ancient/vikings/launch_gms_viking_quest.shtml



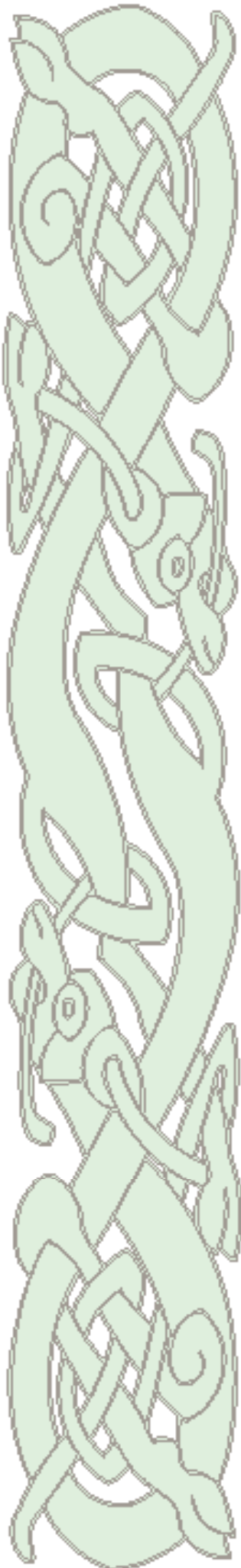
The Viking Invasion - Norsemen



1. Who were the Norsemen?
2. Where did they come from?
3. Can you find out what their homes were like?
4. What is a 'berserker'?



5. From the story, how old do you think Thorvald's son was and why do you think this?
6. What was Thorvald's favourite activity he liked to do with his son?
7. What was his wife making for Thorvald?
8. How do you think Thorvald felt when he heard he had to 'go Viking'?
9. Can you work out why the Norsemen felt it was necessary to steal from another country.
10. Can you make a picture of either:
 - a) Thorvald fishing with his son.
 - b) Thorvald's wife, Arnstein, working in her home on her loom.
 - c) Thorvald thinking about 'going Viking'.
 - d) The design of the beautiful glass bead necklace that Thorvald wore as a talisman.



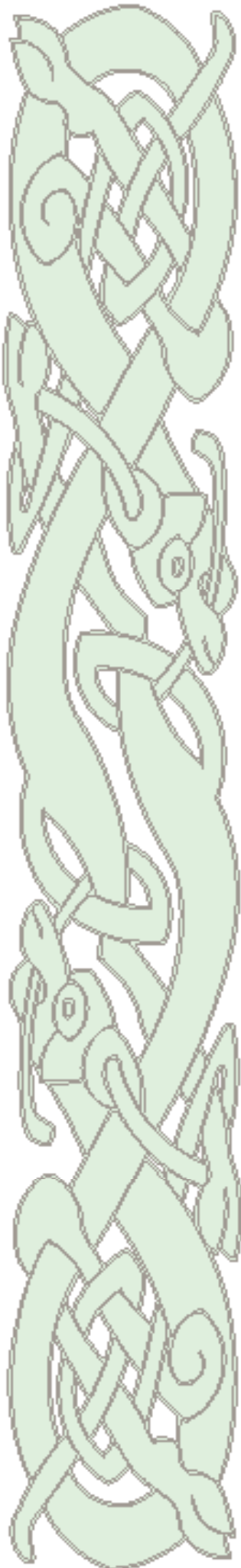
The Viking Invasion - Lindisfarne Battle



1. There were many portents that worried the islanders. Can you find the three mentioned?
2. Pendraed looked forward to seeing the Norsemen but this time something made him hide from them. What had he seen that had upset him?
3. Pendraed had to tell the monks that something was wrong. Who did he find first?



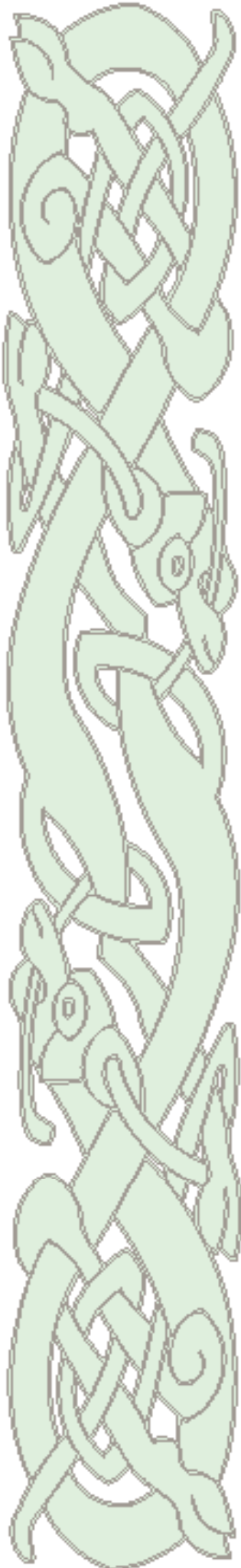
4. What did the monks do when they heard that fierce warriors were coming up to the monastery.
5. A berserker was sent in first to the monastery. How did he get into the monastery and what did he do once he had entered?
6. What did the warriors use to prise the jewels from the covers of the books that held the precious writings?
7. Why didn't Thorvald kill Pendraed?
8. Who was Elfled? What had she come to see?
9. Can you find out why relics were so precious and important to the monks?
10. What did the Norsemen take away with them?



The Viking Invasion - Norsemen



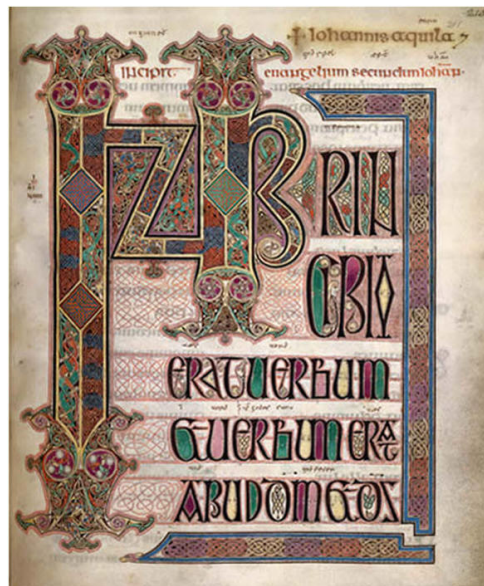
1. Where did the Norsemen come from? Can you find the place on the map?
 2. Explain how Thorvald must have felt when he heard the news that he had to 'go Viking'.
 3. Can you say why, out of all the men in his village, do you think Thorvald was chosen to 'go Viking'?
 4. How did Arnstein feel about her husband being chosen to go and fight? Why do you think she didn't tell him about her feelings?
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5. There was a reason why trade with the Angles was decreasing. Can you say what this was?
 6. Who exactly were the Angles? What country did they live in?
 7. What was the special technology that enabled the Norsemen to travel across the seas more effectively and precisely?
 8. Were the Norsemen looking forward to their journey? What do you think they were feeling at different points in the journey?
 9. Discuss with your friends the characteristics and skills of the crew members, choose which person in the boat you would have preferred to have been, explain why you have made this choice.
 10. Draw a picture of your chosen character.



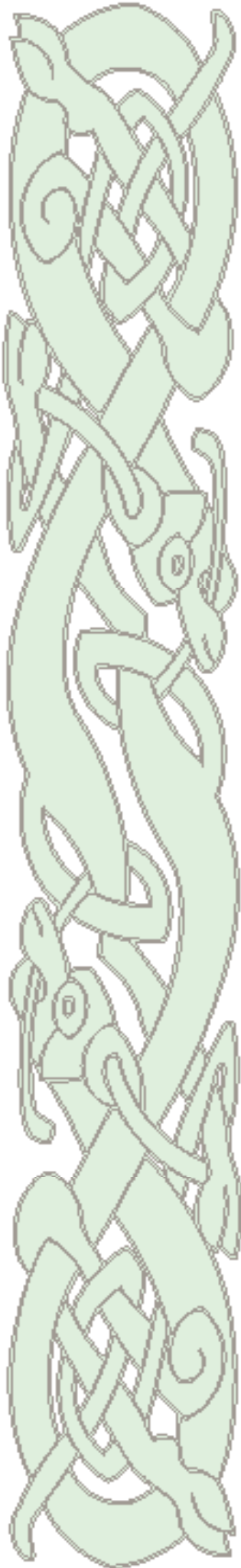
The Viking Invasion - Battle



1. Find out what the word portent means.
2. Pendraed was frightened by the Norsemen. Discuss with your friends why you think Pendraed went straight to the monks. Why didn't he go to his village and his home to warn them first? Explain your reasons.



3. How did the monks react to Pendraed's news?
4. What did the monks try to protect?
5. Can you find out what a berserker is?
6. The precious writings were very much part of Lindisfarne. Can you find out what they were called?
7. Pendraed was not killed by Thorvald. Can you explain why?
8. What happened to Elfled?
9. Explain the importance of the leather pouch? Make an illustration of this pouch and the contents.
10. Why didn't the Norsemen burn down the monastery?



The Viking Invasion - Norsemen



1. Where did the Norsemen live?
2. What were the names of Thorvald's wife and son?
3. How old do you think his son was?



4. What activity did Thorvald like to do with his son?
5. What was Thorvald being chosen for?
6. What was his wife doing in the house?
7. Arnstein made a shirt for Thorvald. What was it made of?
8. Thorvald took with him something for good luck. What was it?
9. What was the boat made from?
10. Draw a picture of the boat in which Thorvald travelled.



The Viking Invasion - Lindisfarne



1. When Pendraed first got up in the morning, what was he doing?
2. The people of the island were not very happy – why?
3. What did Pendraed hear that drew his attention to the coming of the Norsemen?
4. What did Pendraed see that made his flesh creep when he saw the Norsemen?



5. Brother Egric wanted to see what had frightened Pendraed but Pendraed did not have time to explain. What did Pendraed do next?
6. Did the monks believe Pendraed's warning?
7. Why were the Norsemen coming to Lindisfarne?
8. What did the Norsemen do to the monks?
9. What did the Norsemen steal?
10. Draw pictures of what the Norsemen stole.