

# SMASHING SAXONS

Year 4

## Key Vocabulary

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.
Picts	Tribes originally from Scotland who were often feared.
Scots	People from Ireland who, like the Picts, were fierce and powerful fighters.
invaders	People who enter an area and take control of it by force.
kingdom	An area ruled by a king or queen.

## Living in Anglo-Saxon Britain

The Romans preferred living in towns but the Anglo-Saxons preferred to live in small villages (see example on next page).

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, and Essex named after the East Saxons.

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

## Key Figures in Anglo-Saxon Britain

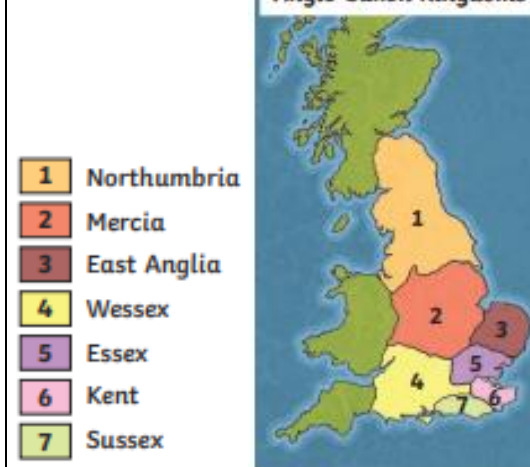
King Vortigern	The king left in charge after the Romans left Britain.
Hengest and Horsa	King Vortigern's brothers from Jutland (in modern day Denmark). They helped to keep the Picts and Scots out of Britain.
Augustine	A Roman monk who was sent to Britain to persuade the Britons to become Christians. After his death, he was made a saint.
King Ethelbert	The king of Kent who was the first King to convert to Christianity.
Columba	An Irish abbot (head of a monastery) who introduced Christianity to Scotland.
King Oswald	The king of Northumbria who introduced Christianity to his people.
Aidan	An Irish monk who helped King Oswald introduce Christianity in Northumbria. He became the first bishop of Lindisfarne.

## 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.

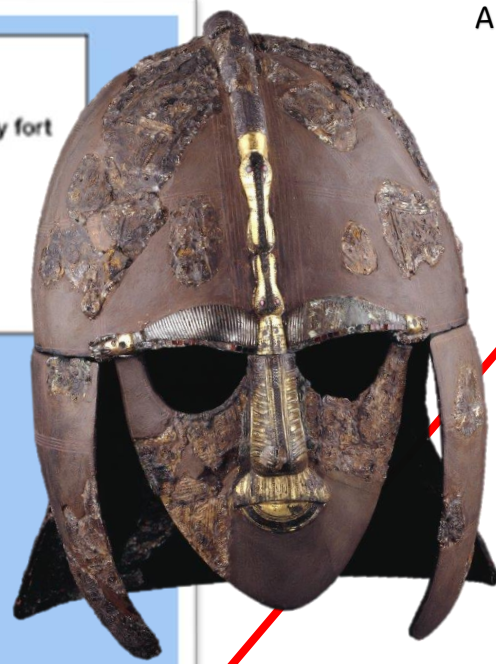
The Picts and Scots were a constant threat without Roman support.

Anglo-Saxon Kingdoms



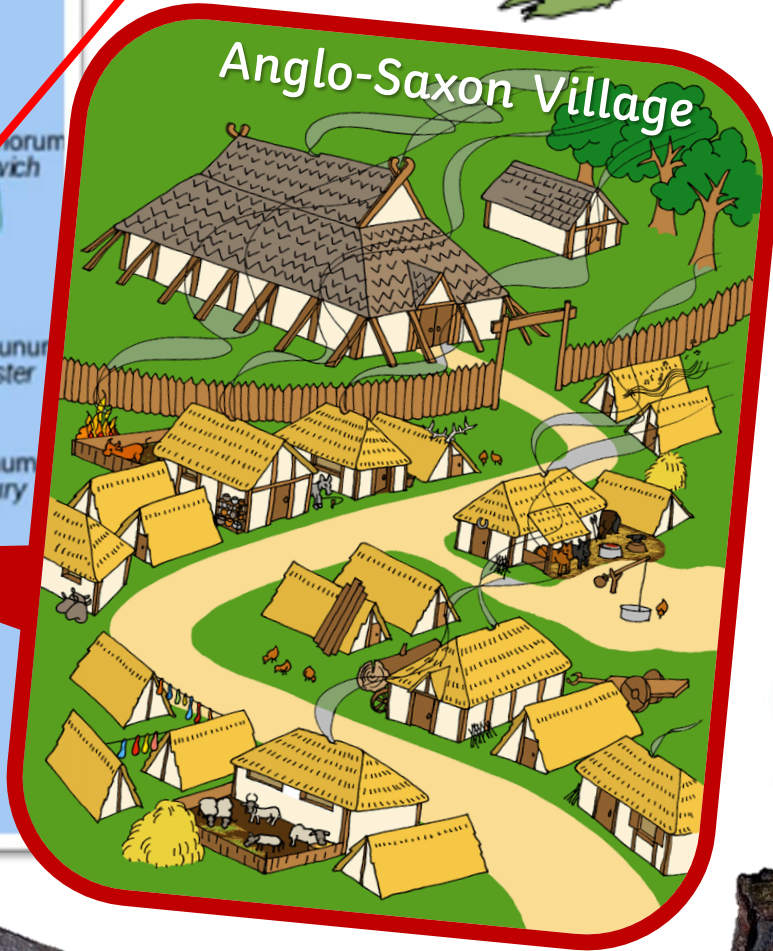
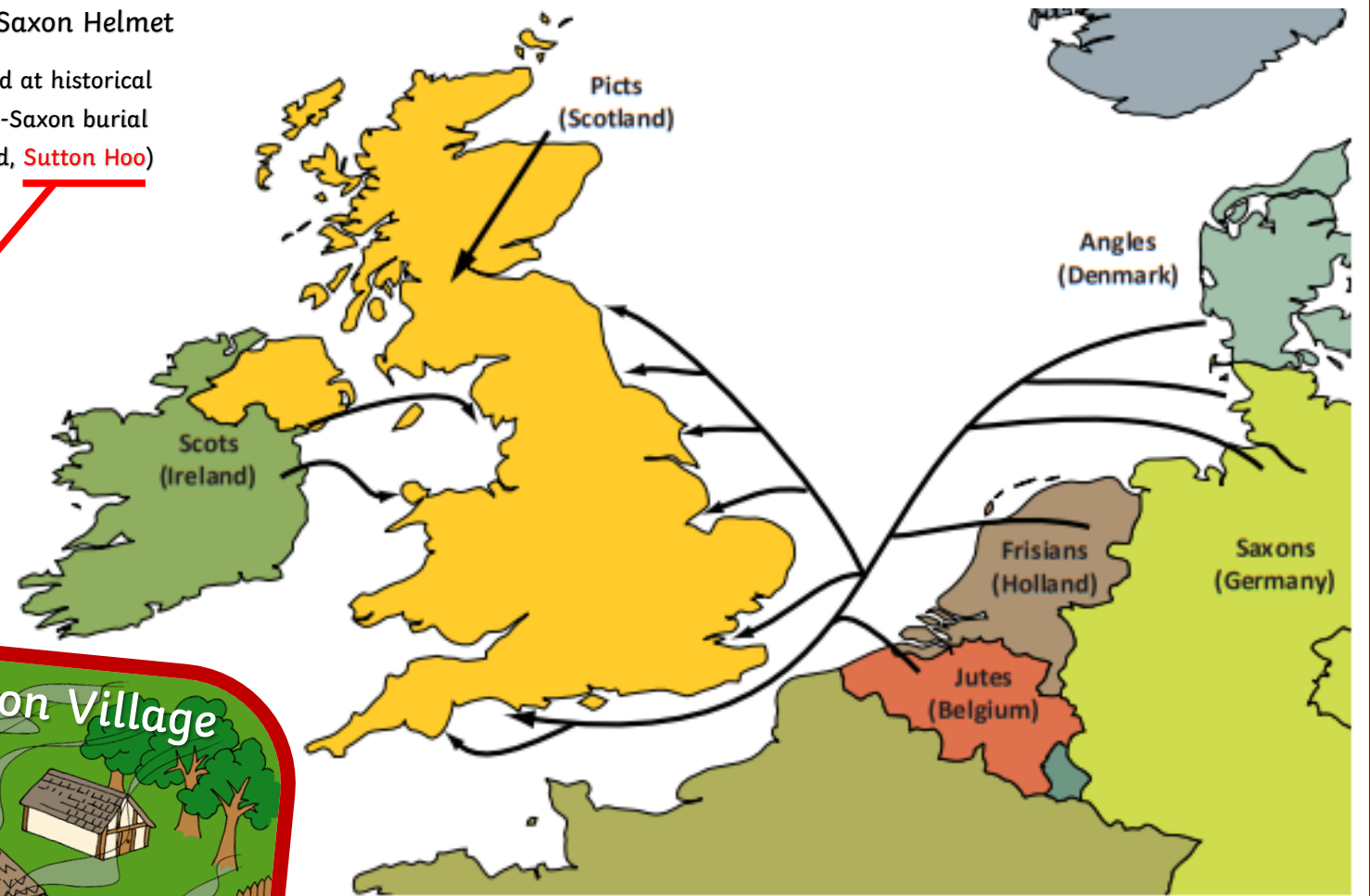
An Anglo-Saxon Warrior



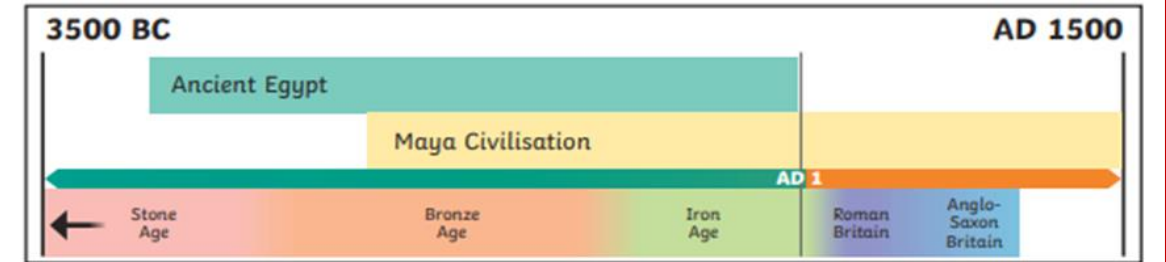


Anglo-Saxon Helmet

(found at historical Anglo-Saxon burial ground, **Sutton Hoo**)



Anglo-Saxon Village



Anglo-Saxon Coin



Anglo-Saxon Spear Head



Anglo-Saxon  
Axe Head



Anglo-Saxon Sword



Anglo-Saxon Axe Hammer



Anglo-Saxon Shield