

Wednesday 5th May 2021

LO: To list the key facts about how Sutton Hoo and Religion in the Anglo-Saxon age.

Starter: Write three things that Alfred the Great did for Britain.

Alfred the Great helped Britain by

Intriguing question:

Do you think Anglo-Saxons were religious people?

I will show you a picture for 30 seconds

Each group has ten goes to name something they saw. They get one point for each thing.



The picture is again revealed and each group is given time to discuss what they can see.

Each group has to give two possible explanations for what is happening.



This time

Look at the dead man, the woman, the weapons, the crowd.

Write questions on post its about the picture.

Other groups to come up with answers to these questions.



Let's make a bank of words for our senses to describe the picture.

See

Hear

Smell

touch

feelings

Write a recount of the funeral from an onlooker.

We are going to look into Monks and Monasteries.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zxsbcdm/articles/zs3gcdm>

Look at how
communication has
change over time.



Glossary:

Communication - speak to one another.

Monastery - a building where Monks live under religious vows.

Monk - Religious men who take a vow

Pagons - A non-Christian religion.

Persuade - convince someone

Superstition - belief in something supernatural

In Roman Britain many people had been Christians. But the early Anglo-Saxons were not Christians, they were pagans.

After the Romans left, Christianity continued in places where Anglo-Saxons did not settle, like Wales and the west. However, when the Anglo-Saxons came to Britain they brought their own gods and beliefs with them. Over time their beliefs changed and many Anglo-Saxons were converted to Christianity.

What early beliefs did they have?

Like the Vikings and the Greeks, the Anglo-Saxons believed in many gods and had many superstitions. The king of the Anglo-Saxon gods was Woden, a German version of the Scandinavian god Odin, who had two pet wolves and a horse with eight legs.

Other gods were Thunor, god of thunder; Egga, goddess of love; and Tiw, god of war. These four Anglo-Saxon gods gave their names to the days of the week. Tiw became Tuesday, Woden - Wednesday, Thunor - Thursday and Egga - Friday.

Anglo-Saxons were superstitious and believed in lucky charms. They thought that rhymes, potions, stones and jewels would protect them from evil spirits or sickness.

Anglo-Saxon monasteries

In AD597 the Pope in Rome decided it was time the Anglo-Saxons in Britain heard about Christianity.

He sent a monk called Augustine to persuade the king to become a Christian. Over the next 100 years, many Anglo-Saxons turned to Christianity and new churches and monasteries were built.

Monasteries were centres of learning. Monks and nuns spent their time in prayer. They also studied and worked in fields and workshops. Monks copied out books by hand and decorated the pages in beautiful colours.

Monasteries were the only schools in Anglo-Saxon England. Boys went to live there to train as monks and some girls became nuns.

Who was Bede?

An English monk called Bede lived in the monastery at Jarrow in Northumbria. He went to live with monks in 680, when he was just seven years old. When he grew up, he became a historian. He wrote a book about the history of the Anglo-Saxons, called 'A History of the English Church and People'.

1st Read

I DO: How did the Anglo-Saxons turn to Christianity?

WE DO: Describe what the Monasteries were for?

YOU DO: Who is Bede?

