

VIKINGS STUDY GUIDE

VOCAB

Viking

Northmen/Norsemen – name for the groups that came from the Northern parts of Europe

Scandinavia – Northern Europe – Norway, Sweden & Denmark

Medieval – the time between the fall of the Roman Empire and the Renaissance, also called the Middle Ages

monastery – like a church

maneuverable – easily moved or steered

muster – to gather

elite – the best

plunder – to steal, usually after a battle

legacy – how someone or something is remembered

Thor – Viking god, considered the most powerful, the god of thunder

Ragnarok – the end of the world in Viking mythology, also has a rebirth

Odin – the head of the Viking gods

Eric the Red – Viking banished from Iceland, encouraged settlement in Greenland

Leif Ericsson – Eric the Red's son, founded at least one settlement in modern-day Canada

fjord – a long, narrow inlet of the sea with tall mountains on either side, typically carved by glaciers

longboat/longship – the type of boats the Vikings used for river and ocean voyage

Helluland – means “flat-stone land”, thought to be modern-day Baffin Island, Canada

Markland – means “forest land”, thought to be modern-day Labrador, Canada

Vinland – an area settled by Vikings in North America, not clear if Newfoundland (Canada)

Loki – Viking god of mischief, trickery, lies and deceit

Heimdall – the guardian of Asgard, the home of the Viking gods

“thing” – a meeting, typically legislative or governmental meeting

CONCEPTS

Geography – Scandinavia, Sweden, Norway, Iceland, Denmark, Greenland, England, North Sea, North Atlantic Ocean

Rights women had: Could speak openly at governmental/legislative meetings; Could divorce husbands; Could own or inherit property; Could command ships and have authority

Why did Vikings expand to settle: They wanted to farm; their homeland had little farmland

Viking helmets did NOT have horns

Viking ships were powered by oars & sails

Vikings became good mariners because of limited resources in homeland

Chores in winter: repair ships, repair weapons