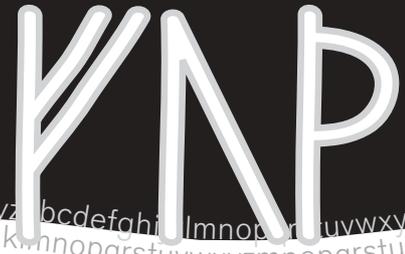




Using the fact file



The Fact file about the Vikings can be used in different ways in your literacy lesson. The tables below show how it could fit in to the key objectives from the Literacy Strategy for Year 3 and Year 4.

		YEAR 3	YEAR 4
Text level	Term 1	Non-chronological reports; underline key points or words; list key points.	Non-chronological reports; generalising / deleting details.
	Term 2	Presenting key points in different formats, e.g. matrices.	Presenting key points in different ways, e.g. labelled diagrams, making notes.
	Term 3	Making notes and summarising.	Summarising key points from a paragraph.
Word and sentence level	Term 1	Prefixes; verbs; commas to separate items in a list.	Double consonant spelling patterns e.g. bubble. Powerful words.
	Term 2	Silent letters; suffixes; plurals.	Word order within a sentence.
	Term 3	Words within words.	Words with common roots.

The fact file can be used either in shared reading or guided reading.

- For shared reading one or two paragraphs will usually be sufficient to cover several objectives.
- The relevant paragraphs should be enlarged or copied onto acetate to use with an overhead projector.
- For guided reading it is quite a simple matter to photocopy the fact file onto A3 paper and fold it into a leaflet, so that each child in the group can have a copy.

Word and sentence level activities

- Re-write sentences thinking about word order.
- Does the re-written sentence have the same meaning as the original? Importantly, is it as clear? Throughout the text are examples of spelling patterns as specified in the objectives.

There are many words in the English language that have their roots in the language of the Vikings. Just a few are listed below. You could search in a dictionary or on the internet for more examples.

- *Place names* – places that end in –by, –thorpe or –thwaite are Viking names.
- *Lots of words to do with farming and boats come from Vikings* – plough, glade, muck, lee, jib, bow, keel, beach, shingle.
- *Other words* – egg, window (originally wind-eye), fog, sky (from a word meaning cloud), husband and knife.

You can get copies of the Vikings fact file from the education dept of the National Maritime museum, or down load it from our website <http://www.nmm.ac.uk/factfiles>



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Copies of the fact file can also be used for highlighting key points/ phrases/ words. They could be used for summarizing key points from a paragraph and presenting the information in a different way. For example:

- information about trade goods could be presented listed in a table; a picture of a ship could be labelled and captioned.
- The headings (or questions) for each paragraph could be blanked out and the children asked to think of their own headings based on the contents of the paragraph.
- Children could be given questions to answer about the text.

Further resources

Viking Settlers, Fiona MacDonald (Macmillan 1992) ISBN 033032481 (children)

The Viking World, James Graham-Campbell (Frances Lincoln) 1980, ISBN 0906459044 (adults)

The Viking Network; lots of resources on every aspect of Viking life. <http://viking.no/e/index.html>

The BBC History website; has information for adults using games, facts and interviews; and for children on a separate site from the Zig Zag programmes.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/ancient/vikings/index.shtml> (adult)

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/vikings/index.shtml> (children's)

The National Maritime Museum, has an on-line version of the Viking fact file and other resources. <http://www.nmm.ac.uk/factfiles> (both)