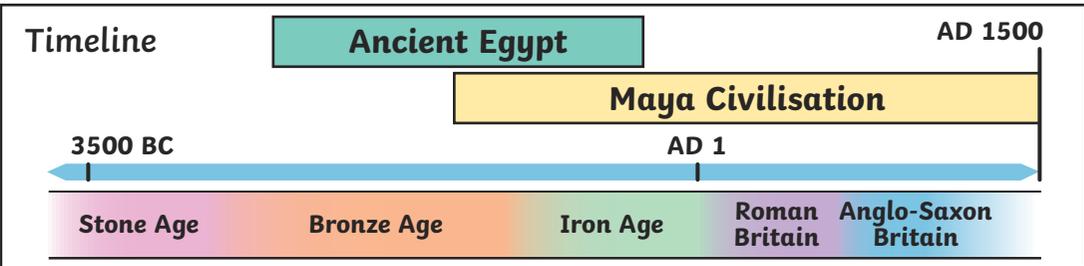


Key Vocabulary	
Angles	Tribes from an area today known as modern day Denmark that settled in Britain from around AD 450. They were one of the tribes that became known as the first Anglo-Saxons.
Saxons	A tribe from the north coast of Europe, especially Germany, that settled in Britain from around AD 450. 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.
Pagan	Someone who follows the Paganism religion and worships many gods and goddesses.
Christianity	A religion based on the teachings of Jesus Christ.



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.

- 1 Northumbria
- 2 Mercia
- 3 East Anglia
- 4 Wessex
- 5 Essex
- 6 Kent
- 7 Sussex

The map shows the following distribution of kingdoms:

- 1 (Northumbria):** Northern England.
- 2 (Mercia):** Central England.
- 3 (East Anglia):** Eastern England.
- 4 (Wessex):** Southern England.
- 5 (Essex):** East of Wessex.
- 6 (Kent):** Southeastern England.
- 7 (Sussex):** Southwestern England.

Living in Anglo-Saxon Britain

The Romans preferred living in towns but the Anglo-Saxons preferred to live in small villages.

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**.

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.

Anglo-Saxon Paganism

The religion of the early Anglo-Saxons was **Paganism**. They worshipped many gods. Festivals and sacrifices were made to the gods and goddesses.

Pagans also believed in good and bad omens, lucky charms, spells and magic. They would perform many rituals that they believed would protect them in this life and the next.



Christian Places of Worship

Many **Christian** places of worship were built at this time.

Canterbury Cathedral was founded by Augustine. It was rebuilt from AD 1070 after a fire.

A monastery was built on the island of Lindisfarne. This Holy Island was very influential and the monks here were successful at spreading **Christianity** across the north of England.

The Anglo-Saxons and Christianity

At the end of this period, **Christianity** became the main religion in Britain.

In AD 597, a Roman monk called Augustine was sent to tell the Anglo-Saxons about **Christianity**.

King Ethelbert of Kent was the first to be converted and was baptised along with 10,000 of his people.

Over the next 100 years, the rest of the kingdoms converted to **Christianity** too.