

# WHO WAS ALFRED THE GREAT?



## QUIZ

1. Label the Anglo-Saxon kingdoms:



2. Offa was king of:

- ☐ Kent
- ☐ Mercia
- ☐ Wessex
- ☐ East Anglia

3. The Anglo-Saxons replaced the \_\_\_\_\_ as rulers of Britain.

4. Name 2 of King Offa's achievements:

- i) \_\_\_\_\_
- ii) \_\_\_\_\_

5. Write down two adjectives that would best describe King Offa.

- i) \_\_\_\_\_
- ii) \_\_\_\_\_

## GLOSSARY

- resistance** standing up to invaders
- conflict** war or disagreement
- parliament** a group of people who decide the laws of a place
- chronicle** an account of events written in chronological order



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Watch:

<https://bbc.in/2YRzqiK>



## ALFRED THE GREAT. KING OF WESSEX 871 – 899



Alfred was the youngest of five brothers. He loved poetry and reading. When he was four, he won a book of poems from his mother by being the first in his family to memorise the whole book!

As a young man, he fought against the Viking invasion. A famous story tells how he burnt some cakes (probably bread) while hiding from the Vikings and taking shelter in a cowherd's hut. The cowherd had asked him to look after the cakes. Oops.

Alfred won a famous victory against the Viking leader, King Guthrum, at the Battle of Edington in 878. Following this, he made peace with the Vikings, dividing the country into two parts: the Danelaw, ruled by the Vikings

and Wessex, ruled by Alfred. This was the first time that Anglo-Saxons and Vikings settled down to live together peacefully.

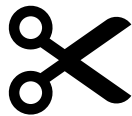
Alfred believed that books and education were very important. He translated lots of books from Latin to English so that more people could read them. He also asked the monks to write one of the first histories of England, the Anglo-Saxon Chronicles.

While he was king, Alfred was advised by a council (a bit like the School Council) called the Witan. This was important because it marked the beginning of parliament in England.



SEQUENCE THE EVENTS

Cut these events out and add them to the timeline in the correct order:



410 AD: End of Romans rule in Britain

871 AD: Start of Alfred's rule as King of Wessex (to 899)

449 AD: Start of the Anglo-Saxon settlement

757 AD: Start of Offa's rule as King of Mercia (to 796)

793 AD: First Viking raids

878 AD: Battle of Edington Start of Danelaw







WORD BANK: ALFRED  
MERCIA  
VIKING  
DANELAW

ANGLO-SAXON CHRONICLE  
WITAN  
PARLIAMENT  
KING GUTHRUM

INVASION  
SETTLEMENT  
EDUCATION  
LITERACY

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Kingdom: \_\_\_\_\_

**Dates of Rule:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Famous For:** \_\_\_\_\_

