

Teacher's Guide for Dig: *Meet the Vikings*

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Students will use this issue for the basis of their research on the Vikings.

Dragon Ships (pages 6-9)

1. Why did the Vikings stay with their ships in death?
2. What discovery was made in 1957?
3. How were the ships different from the royal burial ships?
4. What was the function of the knorr?
5. What was found in the Gokstad in 1880 and the Oseberg in 1904?
6. Who was Magnus Anderson?

Was Birka Abandoned? (pages 10-13)

- 1- Identify
 - a. Birka
 - b. St. Ansgar
 - c. Black Earth
2. Describe life in Birka.
3. What goods did the Vikings trade for?
4. How did the Vikings prevent invaders from entering Birka?
5. What items have archaeologists uncovered in Birka?

Viking Women (pages 14-15)

1. Create a Venn Diagram comparing and contrasting the roles of Viking women with women today.
2. Who were the valkyries?

Brooming Jorvik (pages 16-19)

1. After reading this article, have students write and illustrate a journal entry about life in York after the Viking invasion in A.D. 866.

Varangians to the East (pages 20-21)

1. Have students identify the countries and bodies of water mentioned in this article on a blank world map. Next have them plot routes to these countries from Scandinavia.

Amazing Find at Pskov (pages 22-24)

1. What was discovered at Pskov?
2. How did archaeologists determine this was a noblewoman?
3. How did the second find differ from the first find?

Leif's Canadian Camp (pages 25-27)

1. Who was Leif Ericson?

2. Based on the article, have students draw their interpretation of L'Anse aux Meadows.
3. According to scholars, why were the Vikings at L' Anse aux Meadows?

Too Cold in Greenland (pages 28-30)

1. Who was Eric the Red?
2. What role did climate play in the ending of Viking civilization in Greenland?

Other Activities

Assign a report on archaeologists.

Have students write an essay explaining the role of Vikings in world history.

Use the photos in this issue as story starters about the Vikings.

Create a word search using the words from this issue.