

See inside The Anglo-Saxons Resource Pack



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A full unit of
history work
for **KS2**
covering the
Anglo-Saxons
topic

Detailed
plans for
each lesson

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teach

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activities to
adapt for your
pupil needs

Assessment
opportunities

Pupil activity
sheets

Anglo-Saxons
Lesson 6: Who was Alfred the Great?

Lesson Objectives

- To explore the story of Anglo-Saxon King Alfred
- To consider why Alfred is remembered as 'the Great'

Resources:

- Slides, Lesson 6
- Resource 6a
- Resource 6b
- Modelling Clay (optional)

Starter

Start by asking pupils which famous people they would describe as 'great' - perhaps sporting heroes, popular singers or famous writers. Briefly discuss what it is that makes people become known as 'great'.

Show pupils the image of the statue and the coin that commemorate the Anglo-Saxon King Alfred and read the information on the *Starter slides*. Being commemorated on statues and coins is one way to make people think of you as great. There are lots of kings and queens from history with commemorative statues and coins. However, King Alfred was the only English monarch to have earned the title 'the Great' after his name. Ask pupils to make a list of things that a king might do in order to be remembered as 'great'.

Main Input

Use the *Main Input* slides to explore the story of King Alfred. While you read through the story, ask pupils to use **Resource 6a** to record reasons that Alfred was a 'great' king. You may wish to pause after each slide to give pupils time to note down their reasons.

Activity

Challenge pupils to design their own statue that commemorates King Alfred. They should think about how to help people remember some of his great achievements and how you can reflect this in your design by what he might be doing or holding in his hands. Pupils should use **Resource 6b** to draw their designs. You may wish to provide modelling clay for pupils to make their statues as models, either in this lesson or as a separate lesson.

More Support: Support children who cannot recall the reasons why Alfred is remembered as great. Help them use the notes they made on their **Resource 6a** sheet and choose one item to put in the statue's hand, such as a sword or a book.

More Challenge: Challenge pupils to find out more about other Anglo-Saxon kings and why they have been given particular names, such as Ethelred the Unready, Edgar the Peaceful or Edward the Confessor.

Spot check

Use the *Spot Check* slide to check that pupils can explain why Alfred was remembered as the Great.

Plenary

As well as his great deeds, Alfred was remembered for a bit of an embarrassing one too. Use the *Plenary* slide to explain why Alfred is also famously remembered for burning cakes.

Given the choice, we'd all like our greater moments to be what we are remembered for. Alfred made sure his great deeds were written down and recorded in history, but not necessarily the less great parts of his story. Use the questions on the *Something to Think About* slide to discuss in pairs or small groups.

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