

LEIF ERIKSSON



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Leif Eriksson



What I Know

What I Want to Learn

What I have Learned

Vikings

The Vikings, also known as Norseman, lived in _____, an area of northern Europe, where Norway, Sweden and Denmark are situated today.

They also occupied parts of northern Britain, Iceland, Greenland and Ireland.

They were great _____ builders who loved to use their wooden longships, to travel over deep and shallow waters.

The Viking Age is a period of history (roughly 793 A.D. to 1100 A.D.) when the Norsemen explored Europe by seas for trading, raiding and colonization.

Though Vikings are mostly known as raiders, they were also _____ who grew crops and raised cattle, and other animals, hunters, and exceptional fishermen. The women were skilful weavers and textile makers.



Fact or Legend

The Vikings lived a very long time ago and the records of events that happened during this time are very sparse.

The Vikings _____ their stories down from generation to generation. Scientists do not think these stories are completely reliable, so have been looking for evidence. Due to this, many various accounts of events exist making it difficult to separate fact and legend.

They spoke _____, a language in which the characters of the alphabet were called runes. They did use this alphabet to carve their messages on stone. Most of the stones found contain stories of great battles.

Even so, Erik the _____, Leif's father, is credited with discovering and settling on what is now known as Greenland.

Leif Eriksson, whose name can be spelt multiple ways, is credited with discovering North _____; nearly 500 years before Christopher Columbus. Scientists have found a Viking village in Newfoundland which confirms the fact that Vikings did visit North America.



Viking Language

The Viking language consisted of characters called runes. Create your own alphabet and write a secret message using your newly designed alphabet.

a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l	m

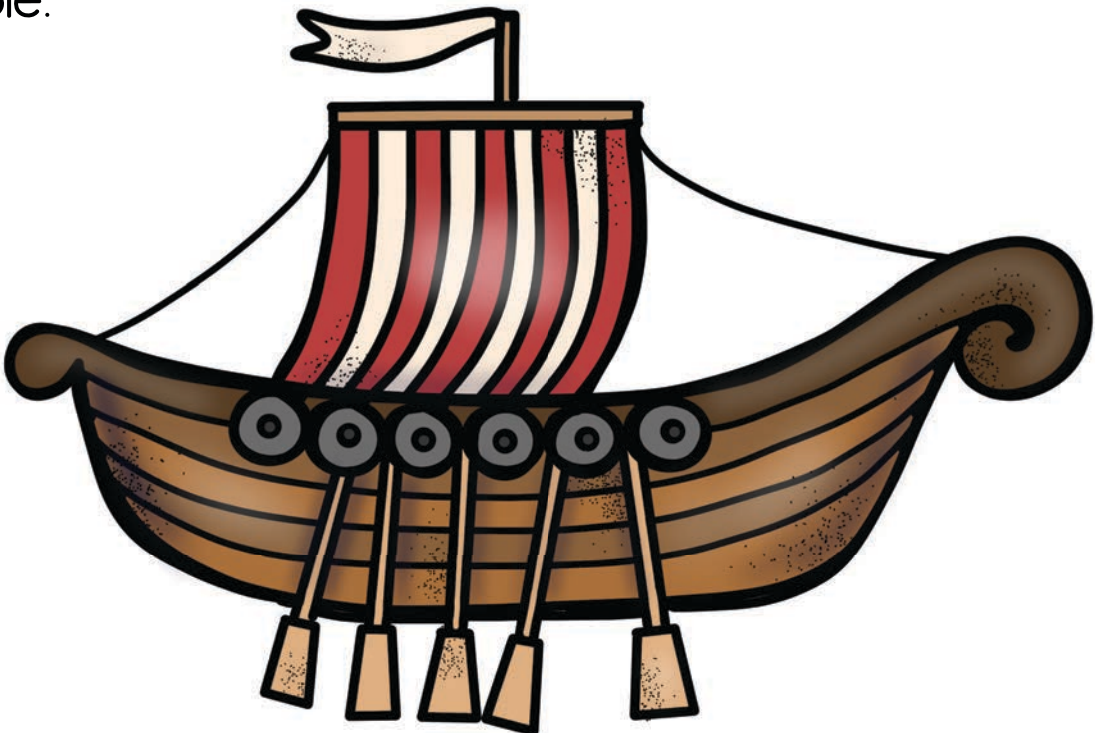
n	o	p	q	r	s	t	u	v	w	x	y	z

Longships

The Vikings were very good sailors who spent a lot of time traveling on the _____. To do this, they build long and narrow ships from wood which enabled them to be sailed in both shallow and _____ water.

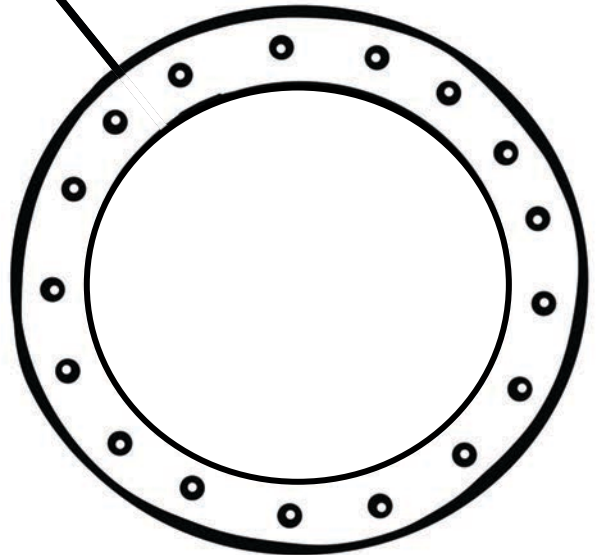
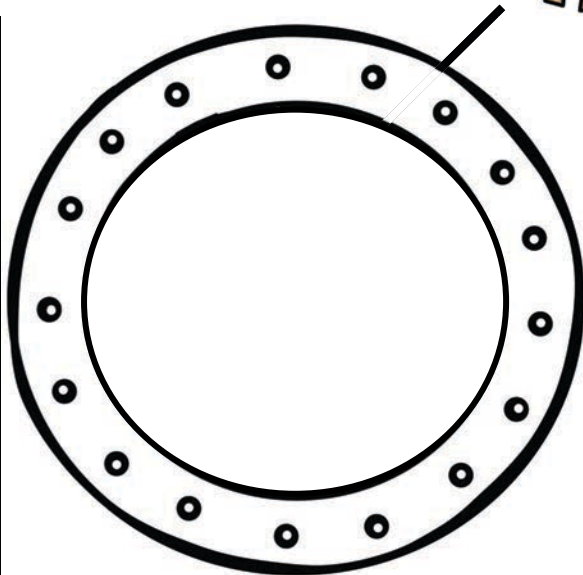
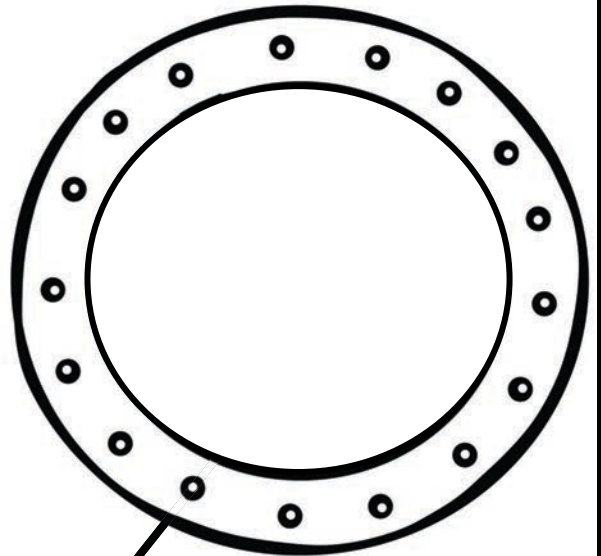
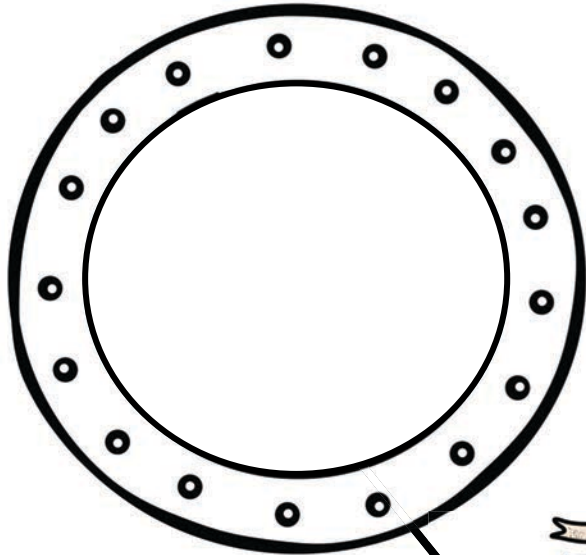
These ships had giant wood carvings of _____ displayed at the front of the boat which was used to try and scare people. These ships were sometimes called dragonships because of this.

Each longship was very large and could carry over 100 people.

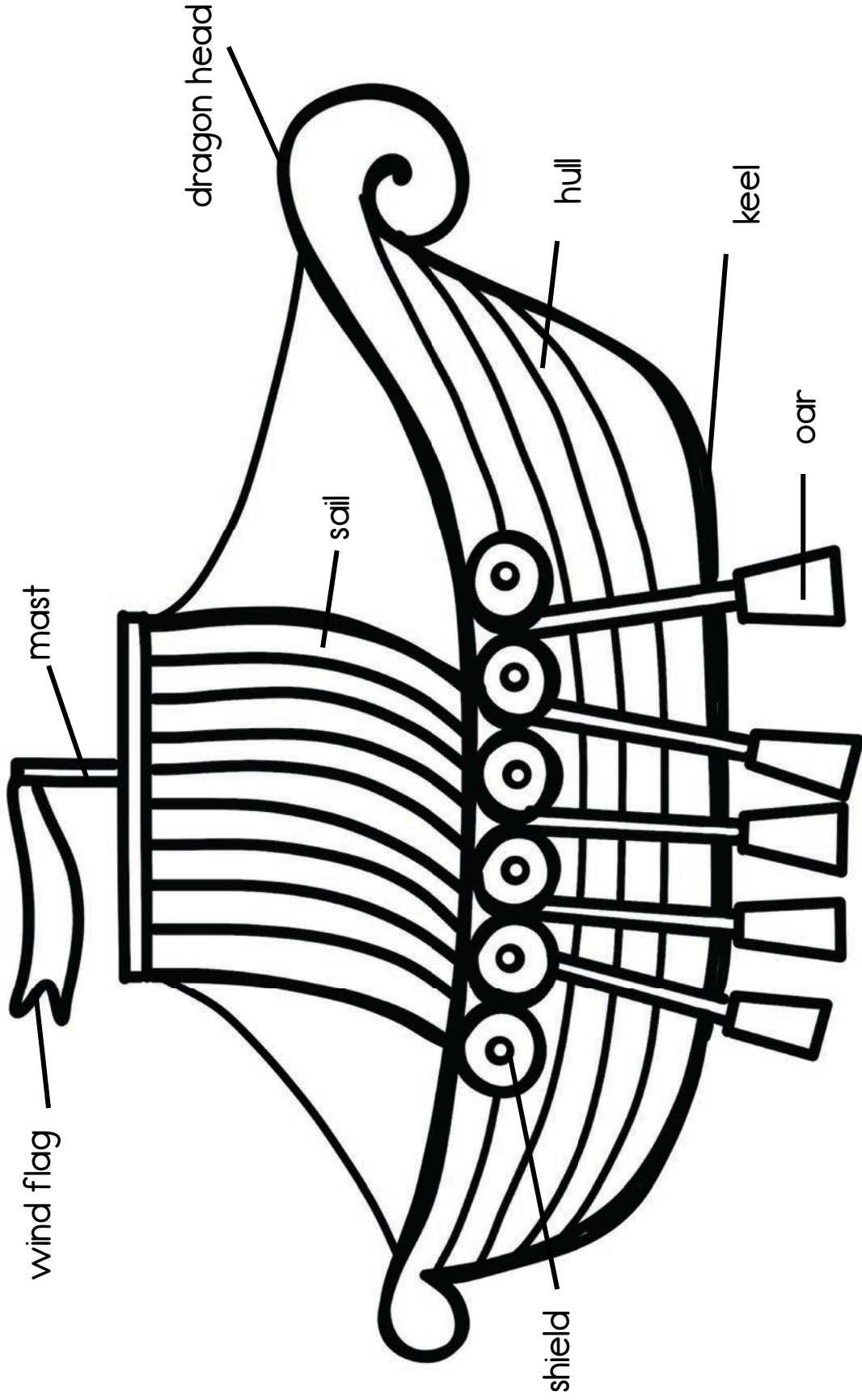


Longships

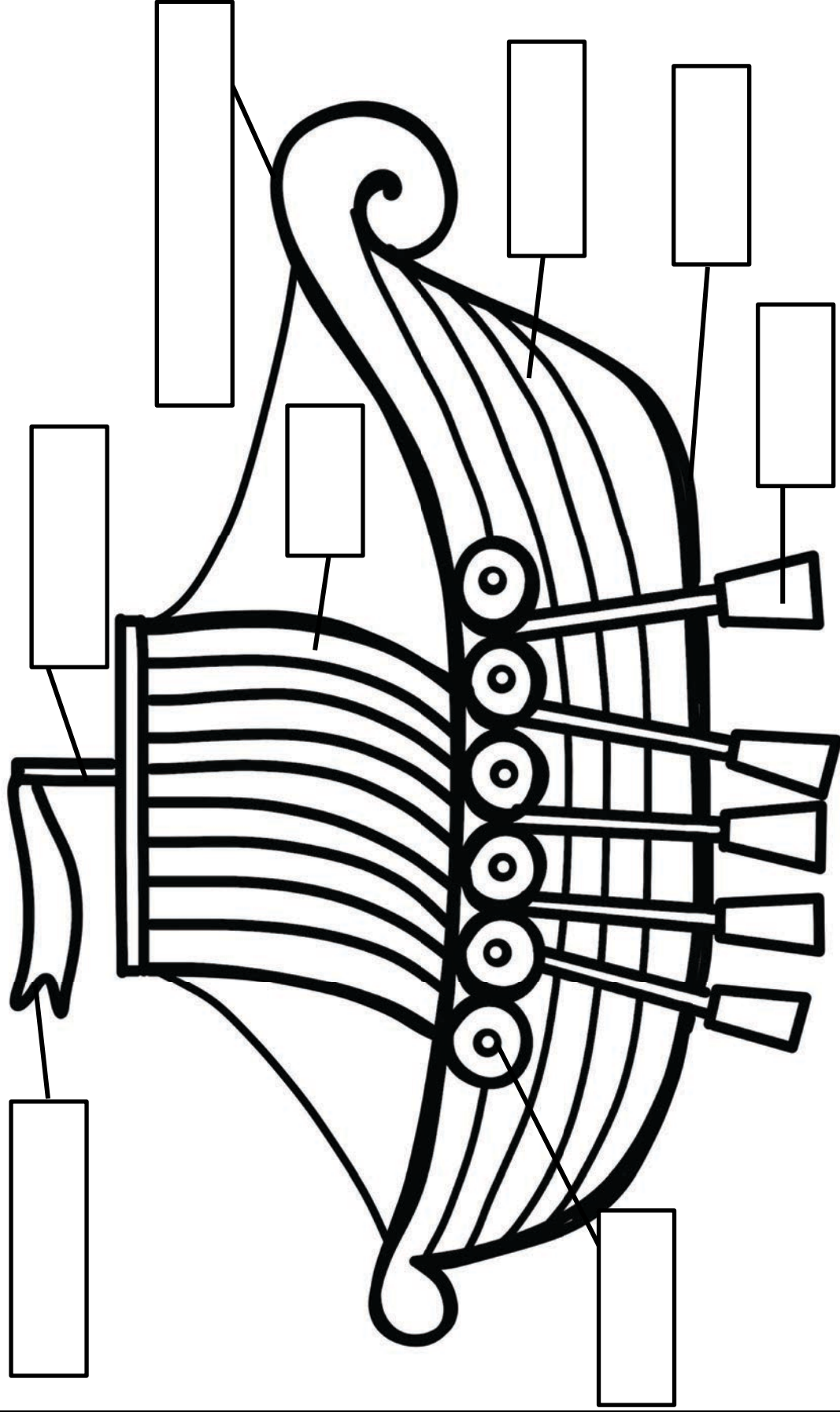
Research longboats and write some interesting facts about it in the shields.



Longship



Longship – Label the parts of a longship



Helmet

Many pictures of the Vikings portray them as wearing big helmets with horns poking out on each side of it, though many historians agree that the helmets didn't have horns.

Weighing between 2 and 4 kg, a helmet was a prized possession that were often repaired and passed down through the generations.

Viking helmets were simple. They consisted of a bowl made from several pieces of iron joined together with rivets as well as a nose guard that was also riveted on.

Research more about the Viking helmets and then draw one below.

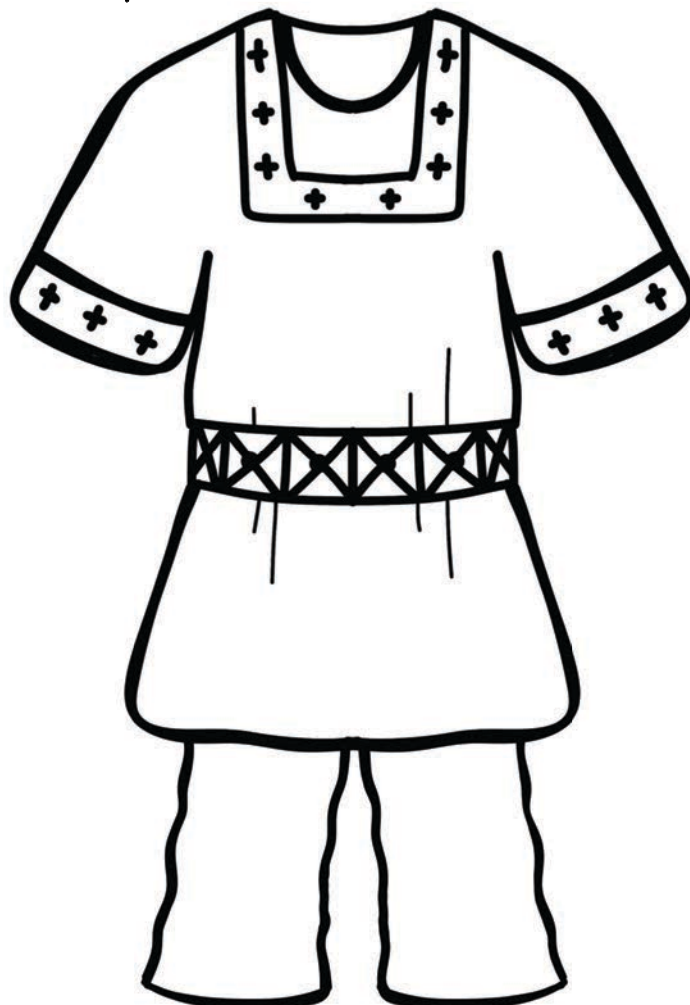


Clothing

The Viking women may have worn an underdress, apron, a belt pouch and shoes on their feet. They may have also worn a brooch with some beads.

The men may have worn a tunic with long pants underneath, boots on their feet and a cap on their heads. They would also have their shield, a belt knife and a spear with them.

Shade in the tunic and pants.



Leif Eriksson ~ Early Life

It is not known exactly when Leif was born or when he died, though it is agreed that he was born somewhere around 970 A.D. in Iceland and died around 1020 A.D.

Leif was the second son of Erik the Red, the famous Viking explorer who is credited with settling Greenland.

As all Viking children did, Leif helped his parents at home around the farm. At age of 12, he would have been treated as an adult. It was also in this time that his father was accused of murder and forced to leave Iceland for three years. Erik sailed west with his wife, and children. They spent this time exploring an on island Erik called Greenland. After his three years were up, Erik sailed frequently between Iceland and Greenland, teaching Leif all about sailing and navigation.

Where was Leif born?

a. Greenland

b. Iceland

c. Blueland

When did Erik the Red discover Greenland? _____



Leif Eriksson ~ Captain

Around the year 1000, Leif got his first chance to captain a major voyage. He sailed to Norway to bring gifts to King Olaf I of the mainland Norse. It was here that Leif was converted to Christianity. Olaf then commissioned Leif to return Greenland to spread Christianity throughout the land.

Leif left Norway, setting sail for Greenland, unexpectedly visiting another land on the way home.

It is said that Leif's ships drifted off course, discovering North America. Other suggestions are that he had already learned of this new land and went in search of it.

Whatever his motives, Leif is credited for being the first European to set foot on the shores of North America. It is said that he named the land Vinland, most likely due to the wild grapes that he and his party saw in the area. After spending the winter in the region, Leif and his crew left to head back to Greenland, never to colonize in the region.

What does colonize mean? _____



Leif Eriksson ~ Returning to Greenland

While heading back to Greenland, Leif come across a shipwrecked trading vessel. He invited the crew of the ship to sail with him in exchange for giving him all of the boat's cargo. This made him a rich man. He then became known as Leif the Lucky.

It is said that Erik the Red died shortly after Leif returned back to Greenland. It was then that Leif took his father's place and became the chieftain. This meant he had to put his voyaging years behind him.

During the rest of his life, Leif spent his time spreading Christianity. His mother was an early convert and Greenland's first Christian church was built.

It is not known exactly when Leif died. Dates of 1020 A.D. – 1025 A.D. have been mentioned.

How did Leif get the nickname, Leif the Lucky?



Leif Eriksson ~ Legacy

In recognition of Leif's voyage, there are statues throughout the United States, in Newfoundland, Norway, Iceland and Greenland.

In September 1964, the United States Congress authorized the president of the United States to declare each October 9th as Leif Eriksson Day, a national day of observance.

In 1887, a Leif Eriksson statue was erected in Boston. In the years following, Milwaukee and Chicago had their own statues. There are also statues in Norway, Newfoundland and Iceland.

Research the Leif Eriksson statues and then design your own on the next page.



Leif Eriksson Statue

Research the Leif Eriksson statues and then design your own below.

Leif Eriksson

Birthday

Birthplace

Died

Leif Eriksson Portrait

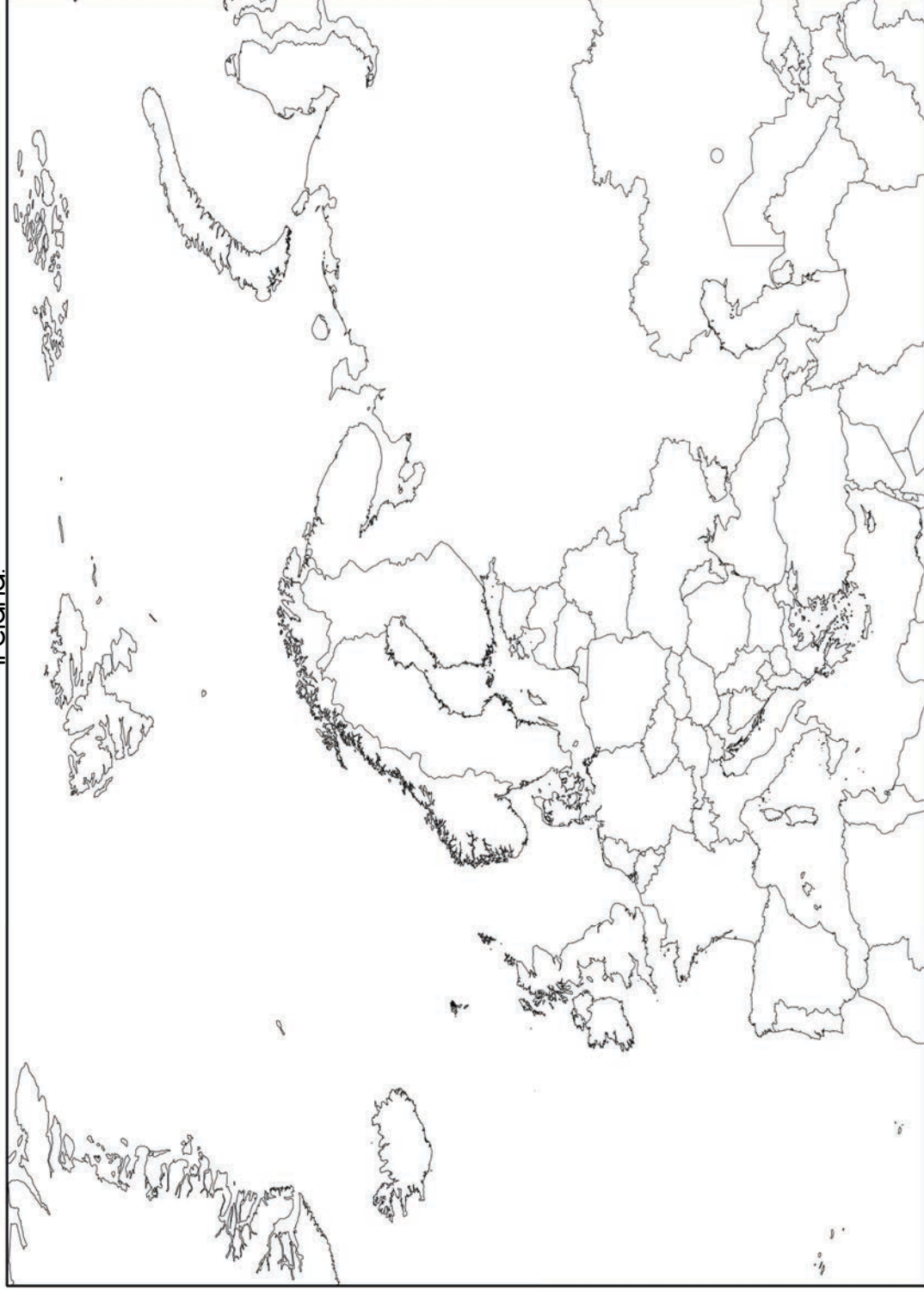


Leif Eriksson is famous for...

Interesting Facts

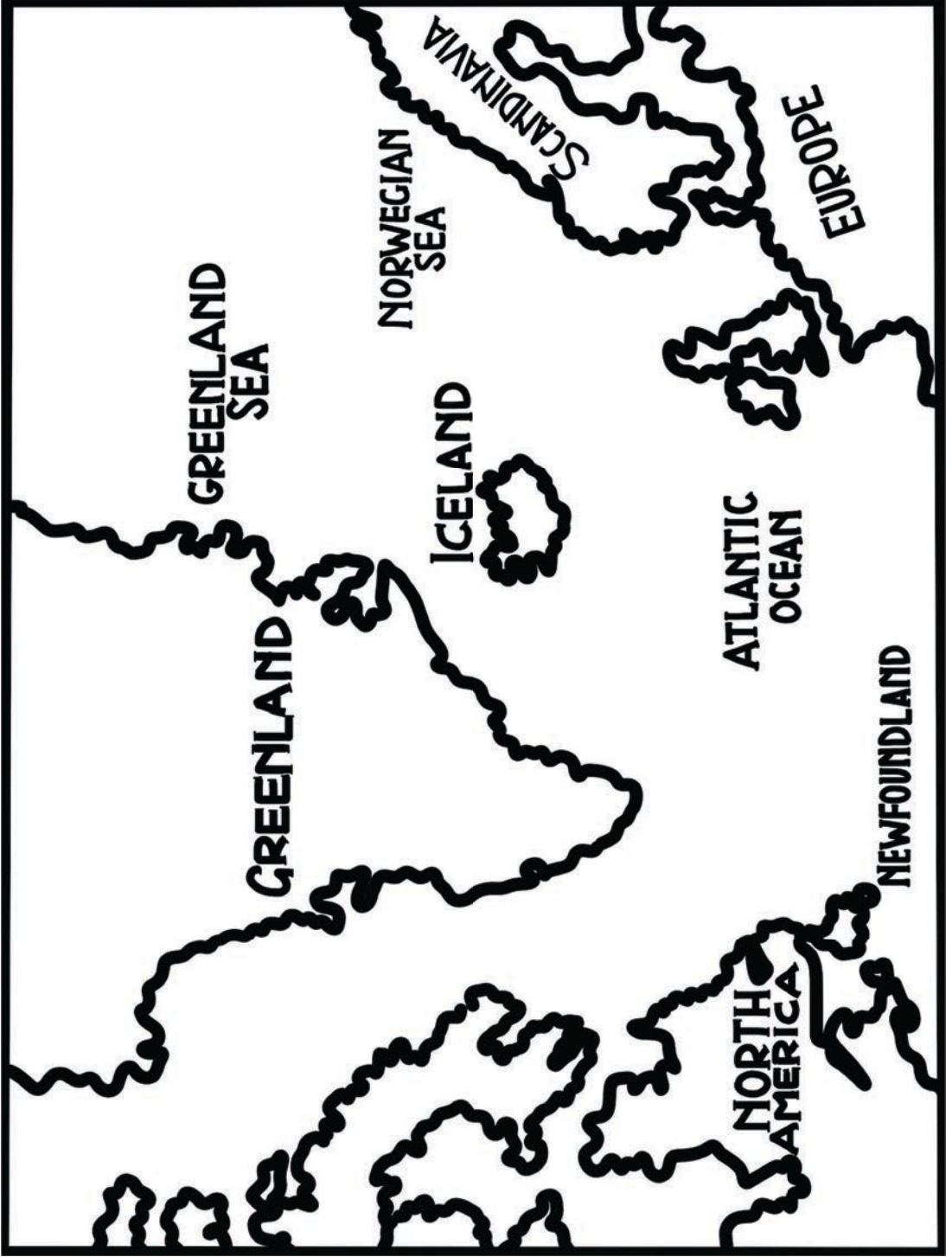
Vikings Map

Shade in the areas in which the Vikings lived: Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Britain, Iceland, Greenland and Ireland.



Leif Eriksson - Map

Create a route that Leif may have followed on his way home to Greenland after visiting King Olaf I.



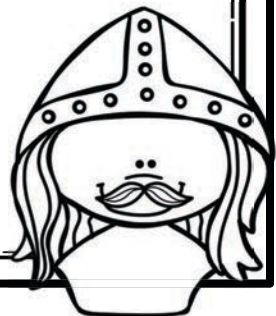
Meeting Leif Eriksson

If you could ask Leif 3 questions, what would they be?

Question 1

Question 2

Question 3



Leif Eriksson

How I would like to be like Leif Eriksson

Words to describe Leif

Different ways his name
can be written are:



Leif Eriksson


His greatest accomplishment was _____

Three Facts about Leif Eriksson are:

Fact 1: _____

Fact 2: _____

Fact 3: _____



Leif Eriksson Timeline



Leif Eriksson Timeline

Cut and paste these answers in the correct order on the previous page.

Leif Eriksson
is born.

Erik the Red is
forced to leave
Iceland and the
family spent
the time in
Greenland.

Leif Eriksson
sails to
Norway
with gifts for
King Olaf I.

Leif converts to
Christianity and
is commissioned
by King Olaf I.

Leif leaves
Norway and
ends up
discovering
North
America.

Leif spends
the winter in
North
America.

Leif returns to
Greenland
and spreads
Christianity.

Leif Eriksson & Vikings Word Search

C	S	V	F	G	B	H	G	Y	S
H	J	L	E	I	F	X	R	Q	W
R	J	M	K	C	H	G	E	F	C
I	G	V	J	E	N	W	E	Z	V
S	H	I	E	L	D	S	N	T	R
T	O	K	W	A	D	T	L	R	S
I	L	I	S	N	F	E	A	N	P
A	K	N	D	D	V	M	N	O	I
N	J	G	C	R	V	L	D	S	H
I	U	S	C	F	A	E	S	S	S
T	G	K	W	S	C	H	D	K	G
Y	H	M	U	Q	I	Q	F	I	N
K	N	J	I	D	R	A	C	R	O
E	R	I	C	V	E	Z	D	E	L
D	F	G	H	D	M	V	F	T	C
F	H	G	D	R	A	G	O	N	F

LEIF
GREENLAND
HELMETS

ERIKSSON
AMERICA
SHIELDS

ERIC
LONGSHIPS
DRAGON

ICELAND
VIKINGS
CHRISTIANITY

Leif Eriksson Vocabulary

Write the correct answer on the line.

accused

Viking

Norway

barren

founded

artefact

climate

island

archaeologists

blamed or charged with a crime

land that is too poor to produce
vegetation

a man-made object that has cultural or
historical significance

the average weather conditions of an
area of long periods of time

an area of land that is completely
surrounded by water

Norse seafarers who lived during the
late 8th to 11th centuries

a Scandinavian country whose capital is
Oslo

started or established

people who study human activity
through the excavation of sites and
analysis of artefacts

Leif Eriksson True or False

Write True or False on the line.

_____ Leif was born in North America.

_____ His family left Iceland in 982 because his father had been accused of a crime.

_____ The Vikings lived in Sweden, Denmark and Antarctica.

_____ Leif Eriksson called the land he found Vinland.

_____ The settlement that scientists found was in Newfoundland.

_____ Erik the Purple was Leif's father.

_____ Leif Eriksson and the Vikings were introduced to Christianity.

Leif Eriksson Quiz

Circle the correct answer.

1. What year did Leif Eriksson visit North America?

- a. 999 A.D. b. 1000 A.D. c. 1001 A.D.

2. Leif called the new land?

- a. Grapeland b. Fruitland c. Vinland

3. The word 'Viking' means...

- a. a pirate raid b. a ship invasion c. a break-in

4. The Viking ships were called?

- a. shortboats b. longships c. big boats

5. What did Leif bring to King Olaf I?

- a. food b. books c. gifts

6. The Viking alphabet is made up of characters called?

- a. rolo b. runes c. dunes

7. In 1963, ruins of a Viking settlement were found in?

- a. Newfoundland b. Canada c. England





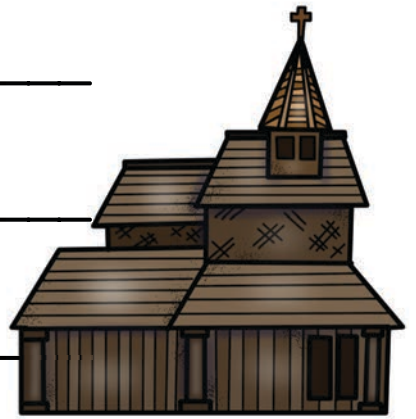
Handwriting practice area consisting of 15 horizontal lines.





A series of horizontal lines for writing, consisting of 18 lines in total. The first line is immediately below the grey header, and the remaining 17 lines are spaced evenly down the page. The lines are black and extend across most of the page width.





A series of horizontal lines for writing, starting from the top of the page and extending down to the bottom. The lines are evenly spaced and cover most of the page's width.

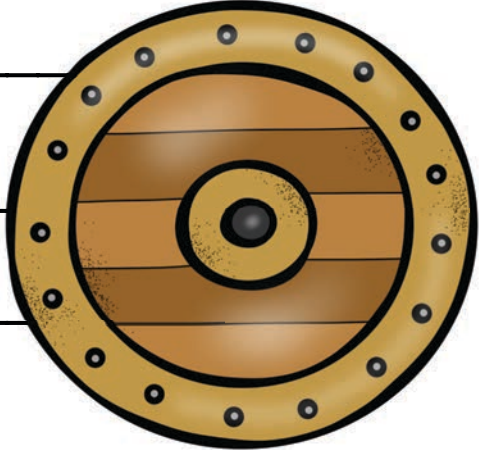


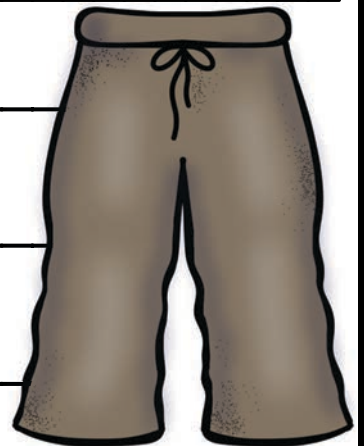
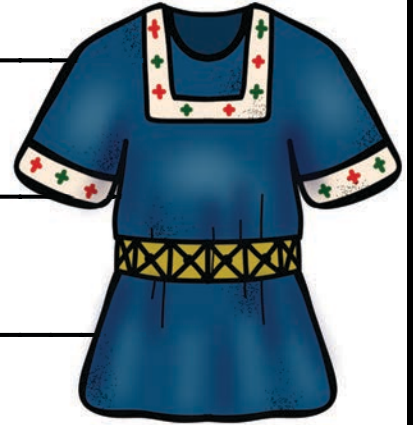
Handwriting practice area consisting of 15 horizontal lines.



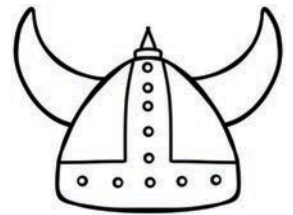


Lined writing area with 18 horizontal lines.





My Viking Book

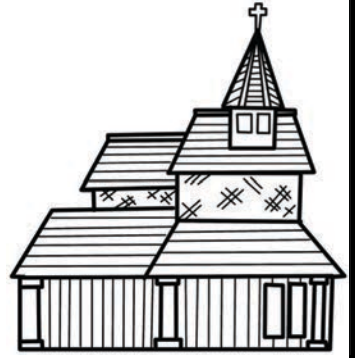


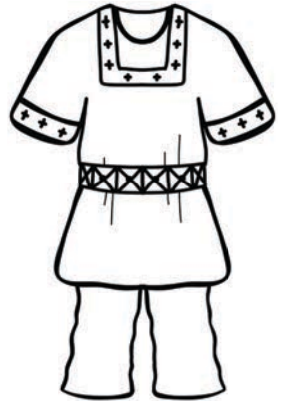


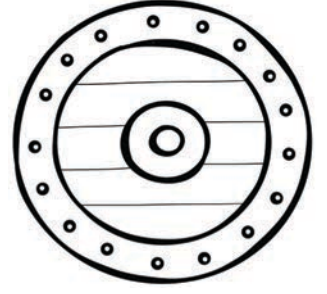


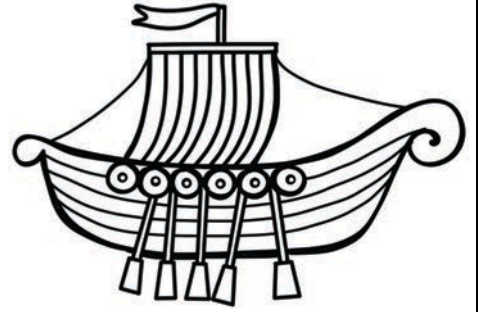












ANSWERS

Vikings

- Scandinavia
- ship
- farmers

Fact or Legend

- passed
- Norse
- Red
- America

Longships

- water
- deep
- dragons

Leif Eriksson Early Life

- B – Iceland
- When he sailed west after being forced to leave Iceland.

Leif Eriksson Captain

- Colonize means to settle among and establish control over an area.

Returning to Greenland

- Leif became known as Leif the Lucky after receiving the cargo of a shipwrecked vessel in return for helping the crew.

Timeline Order

- Leif Eriksson is born.
- Erik the Red is forced to leave Iceland and the family spent the time in Greenland.
- Leif Eriksson sails to Norway with gifts for King Olaf I.
- Leif converts to Christianity and is commissioned by King Olaf I.
- Leif leaves Norway and ends up discovering North America.
- Leif spends the winter in North America.
- Leif returns to Greenland and spreads Christianity.

ANSWERS

Leif Eriksson Vocabulary

- accused
- barren
- artefact
- climate
- island
- Vikings
- Norway
- founded
- archaeologists

Leif Eriksson T or F

- false
- true
- false
- true
- true
- false
- true

Leif Eriksson Quiz

- B – 1000 A.D.
- C – Vinland
- A – a pirate raid
- B – longships

Leif Eriksson Quiz cont...

- C – gifts
- B – runes
- A – Newfoundland

LINKS

Vikings

- <https://historykids.net/vikings/>
- <https://www.theschoolrun.com/homework-help/vikings>
- <http://thedockyards.com/10-interesting-facts-know-leif-erikson/>

Helmets

- <http://primaryfacts.com/5609/viking-helmets-facts-and-information/>

Leif Eriksson

- <http://mentalfloss.com/article/532073/facts-about-leif-erikson>
- http://www.softschools.com/facts/holidays/leif_erikson_day_facts/1290/

Leif Eriksson & Vikings Word Search



LEIF
GREENLAND
HELMETS

ERIKSSON
AMERICA
SHIELDS

ERIC
LONGSHIPS
DRAGON

ICELAND
VIKINGS
CHRISTIANITY