

# Anglo-Saxons and Scots Place Names

Wessex

East Anglia

# Anglo-Saxon Kingdoms



The British fought hard against the Anglo-Saxons but by about 600AD they had either been forced to escape or had been taken as slaves. Those who escaped retreated mainly to Wales and Cornwall which never came under Anglo-Saxon rule. The rest of Britain was divided into 7 kingdoms:

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

But where did these place names come from?

What do they mean?



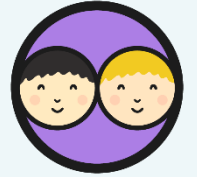
# Kingdom Name Meanings

These county names mainly come from the names and geographical location of the Anglo-Saxons who first settled here.

Place Name	Meaning
Northumbria	Land of people living north of the River Humber.
East Anglia	Comes from the fact that the Angles first settled here.
Sussex	South Saxons.
Wessex	West Saxons.
Essex	East Saxons.
Mercia	Border people.
Kent	The Jutes who settled here called themselves 'Kentings'.



# Root Meanings



Many of the names of towns and villages in Britain also came from the Anglo-Saxons. Have you ever noticed that many place names share some similarities? For instance, how many place names can you think of which have the endings shown on the sign posts below?

What do these endings mean?

**-ham**

**-ford**

**-worth**



# Anglo-Saxon Vocabulary



These county names mainly come from the names and geographical location of the Anglo-Saxons who first settled here.

burh - town	ley - clearing
bury – fortified place	mer/mere – pool or lake
croft – small enclosure	ney - island
field – open land	stow/stowe – meeting place/holy place
ford – river crossing	ton/tun - farmstead
ham/m - village	wic/wich - farm
ings - _____'s people	worth/worthy - enclosure

# Place Names Poster

Your task is to create a poster showing all you have learnt about Anglo-Saxon place names and their meanings.

Your poster should include:

1. Examples of place names and their meanings.
2. Examples of Anglo-Saxon words/information related to the naming of places.
3. Pictures and diagrams to show places and/or their geographical location (where in Britain they are)



