History

Anglo-Saxons and Scots

Anglo-Saxons and Scots

Village Life

Village Jobs

Everyone who lived in an Anglo-Saxon village contributed to its running in some way.

There were a variety of every day jobs to be done including:

- Clearing and ploughing the ground.
- Grinding flour and making bread.
- Growing crops and tending to livestock.

Some people had more specialised jobs:

- Blacksmiths forged metal to make tools and weapons.
- Woodworkers made bowls, wheels and furniture.
- Jewellers made brooches and ornaments for the rich.

What other jobs do you think needed to be done?

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Anglo-Saxon Jobs

Activity

With your partner, find out more about one of the Anglo-Saxon jobs you have learnt about and then create a poster to advertise for an Anglo-Saxon worker for your job.

You should draw a picture of an Anglo-Saxon worker doing the job in the middle and provide details about the job and the qualities needed to do it in the boxes around the outside.

Choose one of these jobs to write about:

Smith, Tanner, Weaver, Jeweller, Woodworker, Potter

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In the Village

Look at this picture of a typical Anglo-Saxon village. What can you see? With your group make a list of 5 things we can learn about Anglo-Saxon village life by looking at this picture.

The Anglo-Saxons positioned their villages near a water source, such as a river or lake, which would provide drinking water and fish to eat.

The chief of the village lived in a larger house in the centre of the village. This house might also contain a meeting hall.

Fields for growing crops were ploughed over to prepare them for planting. Oxen would pull a basic plough which was called an ard.

Livestock was kept in the village. Children would often be responsible for looking out for wolves, which were wild in Britain during the Anglo-Saxon times.

Family groups lived in smaller village houses.

Some buildings were reserved for specific purposes, such as a space for performing a craft like weaving or as storage units.

Pots made from clay were fired (dried out and hardened) on a large open fire.

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In the House

What can you see happening inside this house? What can this picture teach us about how the Anglo-Saxons lived?

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