Year 5 Topic: Settlements (Anglo-Saxons)

Key questions:
- What are settlements?
- Where in the UK did the Anglo Saxons settle?
- What were Anglo-Saxon villages and homes like?

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Enquiry

This topic will link to our 'enquiry' driver, as we find out about Settlements and in particular Anglo-Saxon settlements.

Key Facts and Information

What are settlements?	Settlements are places where people live and sometimes work. They can be small or large depending on how many people live there and how many facilities there are.
Where in the UK did the Anglo Saxons settle?	The Anglo-Saxons took control of most of Britain, although they never conquered Scotland, Wales and Cornwall. They settle in England in places near to rivers or the sea, which could be easily reached by boat. One of the places they settled in was Tonbridge, in Kent. Tonbridge was an ideal place to settle as it was on the main track from Hastings to London and has a river.
What were Anglo Saxon villages and homes like?	At the time when the Anglo-Saxons came to England much of the country was covered in forest. Only about a few thousand people in the whole land. It was an easy place for newcomers to find a place to start a village and then chop down the surrounding forest to make farmland.

Anglo Saxon Word	Meaning	Examples of place name
barrow	wood	Barrow-in-Furness
bury	fortified place	Banbury Shaftesbury
ford	shallow river crossing	Stamford
ham	village	Birmingham
hamm (a different way of spelling of ham)	enclosure within the bend of a river'	Southhampton Buckingham
hurst	wooden hill	Staplehurst Chislehurst
leigh / lee / ley	forest clearing	Henley
mer /mar /mere	lake	Cromer
ney	island	
port	market town	Bridport
stead /sted	place	Stanstead
stow / stowe	meeting place holy place	Stowmarket Padstow
ton / tun	enclosed village / farmstead / manor	Tonbridge Alton Luton
wick / wich	Produce of a farm	Greenwich (fields) Woolwich (sheep) Butterwick (dairy) Chiswick (cheese) Norwich (?)

Vocabulary

Settlement	Place where people live and sometimes work
Hamlet	A very small settlement with just a group of houses
Village	Also a small settlement but may have houses, a primary school, a few shops, a Post Office and a village hall
Town	Larger than a village, with lots of houses, primary and secondary schools, as well as sometimes having a railway station and shopping centre
City	The largest type of settlement, containing lots of buildings and lots of people. They usually have hospitals, universities, shops, offices, many houses and a cathedral
Industry	Industry produces all the goods and services required by society and distributes them to consumers
Fertile	Land or soil that is fertile is able to support the growth of a large number of strong healthy plants
Irrigation	The artificial supply of water to agricultural land
Source	The beginning: where something comes from

We know what Saxon houses may have looked like from excavations of Anglo Saxon villages.