

# Anglo-Saxon Dates and Maps



# Anglo-Saxon Dates and Maps

The decision to suggest a chronological approach to history means that probably one of our most difficult and controversial periods has been allotted to Year 3. I am contemplating a wax effigy of Michael Gove to replicate the demise of Edmund Ironside.

But since Britain seems as divided at the time of writing as the heptarchy, here goes. This activity attempts to make the period accessible and develop mapping and timeline construction skills as well as promote talk of course.

## How it works

There are seven sets of resources for each of the seven centuries (well six and half) between the departure of the Roman Army and the Battle of Hastings. The class is divided into seven groups and each group works on a different century.

The resources comprise:

A gridded map for completion. This might work best as A3.

A set of instructions for completing the map, plotting coordinates and marking, colouring, cutting out and sticking on labels.

An example of another map that provides more information.

Four date cards with information about significant dates.

Some extra date cards for optional use which I will add to.

Each group receives one or two sets of the resources for their century. They work together to complete their maps and if they have time discover more information and or think of question they would like to ask about their century. They have to think about how together they can present their knowledge to others

Then one group meets another group and they in turn present the information they have put together and the questions they have.

Then the groups in (probably best chronological) turn present their century to the rest of the class using the maps and date cards as props.

This could later be written up as a class display or presented in an assembly.

**Feedback last updated 7th December 2017**

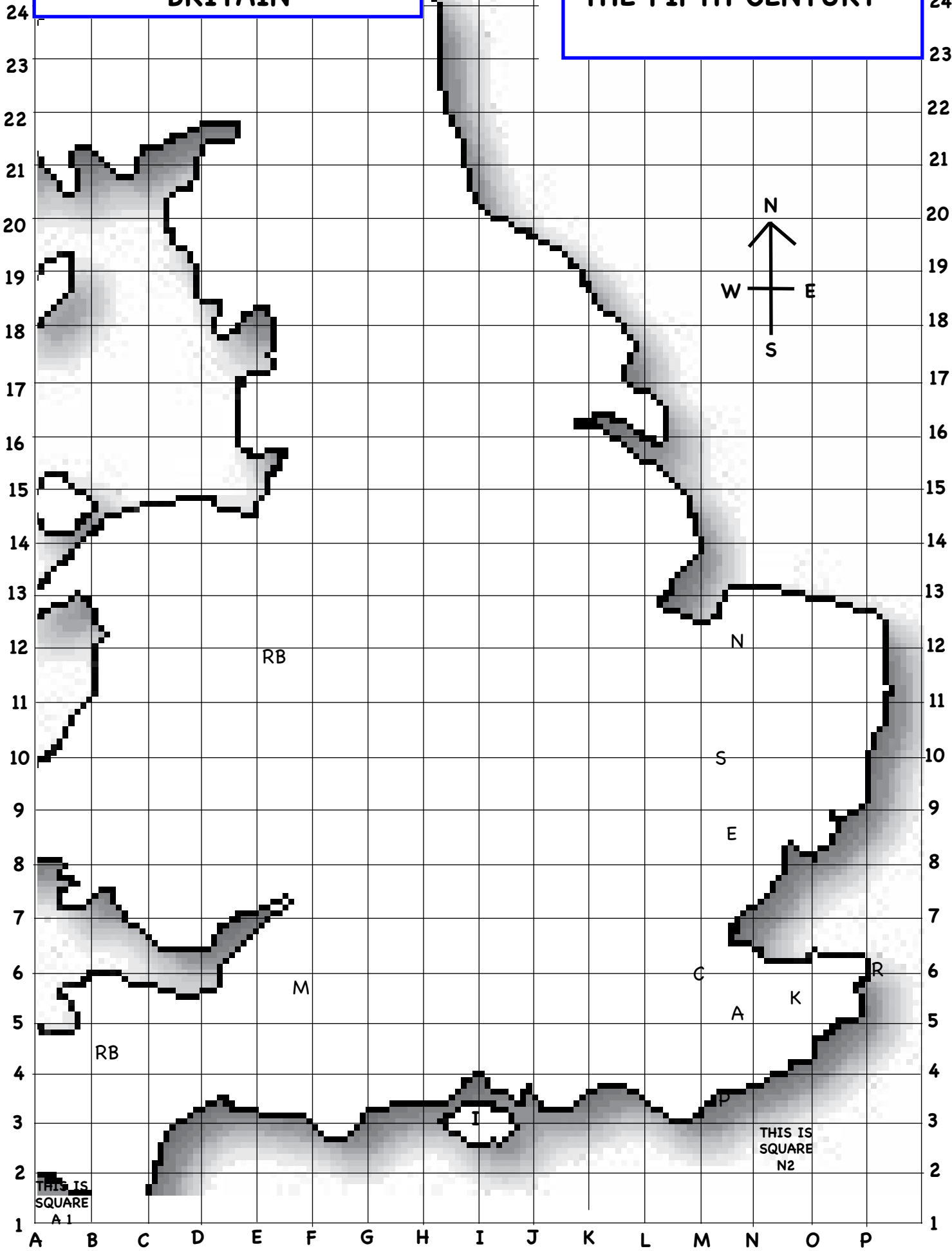
**Feeling so far that the instructions are too difficult.**

**"There was a time when Y3 could draw a line from one coordinate to another but nowadays there are more children finding this challenging. And cutting, sticking, colouring in is not so well built into KS1 - children are spending too much time learning to b-a-r-k at print."**

**We'll produce a simpler set soon. What do you think?**

MAP OF PART OF GREAT BRITAIN

THE FIFTH CENTURY



## FIFTH CENTURY: what is happening.

Roman army leaves from Richborough.

Jutes from Denmark arrive in Kent (they fight battles at Aylesford and Crayford) and the Isle of Wight

Saxons from Germany arrive. Aella in the south at Pevensey and Cerdic in Hampshire. Britons move west.

Angles from Germany arrive and settle in the east.

### MAP INSTRUCTIONS

Only colour the land and not the sea!

Colour land on squares I3, M5, N5, O5, M6, N6, O6 red for the Jutes.

Colour land on squares H5, I5, J5, H6, I6, J6, H7, I7, J7 green for the West Saxons.

Colour land on squares K4, L4, M4 yellow for the South Saxons.

Colour squares M8, M9, N7, N8 blue for the East Saxons.

Colour squares K7, L7, M7 orange for the Middle Saxons.

Colour squares J10, K10, L10, M10, O10, P10, K11, K12, J12, K12, L12, M12, brown for the Angles.

Now stick your name labels on your map. The letters on the map will help you.



This map shows lots of different small kingdoms.

Cut them out and stick them on your map

### LABELS FOR FIFTH CENTURY MAP

AYLESFORD	CRAYFORD	RICHBOROUGH	MOUNT BADON	PEVENSEY	
JUTES	JUTES	WEST SAXONS	SOUTH SAXONS	MIDDLE SAXONS	EAST SAXONS
NORTH ANGLES	SOUTH ANGLES	ROMAN BRITONS	ROMAN BRITONS		

## Fifth Century Dates 401-500CE

# 410CE

Roman Army leaves Britannia to help Romans in Italy. In 380CE there were thirty thousand (30,000) soldiers defending Britain.



Richborough Roman Castle, Kent

# around 455CE

Battle of Aylesford in Kent. Jutes from Denmark fight the Britons. More battles follow. Britons leave Kent around 457CE after Battle of Crayford.



Jutish spear

Her Hengest 7 Horsa fuhton wiþ Wyrhtgeorne þam cyninge, in þære stowe þe is gecueden Agælesþrep, 7 his broþur Horsan man ofslog; 7 æfter þam Hengest feng to rice 7 Æsc his sunu.

# 491CE

Battle of Pevensey. Aelle, a Saxon king and his three sons defeat the Britons. Saxons settle in the south. More Saxons settle to the west.

Saxon weapons



# around 500CE

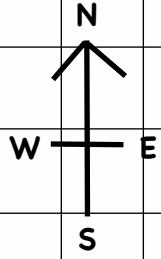
Battle of Mt Badon in Somerset. The Britons stop the advance of the Saxons. King Arthur may have led the British army.



Saxon shield

**MAP OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND**

**THE SIXTH CENTURY**



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## SIXTH CENTURY: what is happening.

Volcano erupts in Pacific Ocean. Ash from the volcano blocks the sun all over world for a year. Crops fail. People die of hunger.

Angles move north to start kingdom of Deira. Deira joins Bernicia to become Northumbria.

Columba travels from Ireland to Scotland. He builds a monastery in Iona

Augustine travels from Rome to Canterbury in Kent.

### MAP MAKING INSTRUCTIONS

Only colour the land and not the sea!  
Colour land on squares L5, L6, N6, O6  
RED for the Jutes.

Colour land on squares K9, L9, M9, K8,  
L8, M8, K7, L7, I6, J6, K6, I5, J5, K5  
GREEN for the West Saxons.

Colour land on square M6 YELLOW for  
the South Saxons.

Colour land on squares N7, N8, O8  
BLUE for the East Saxons.

Colour land on square M7 ORANGE for  
the Middle Saxons.

Colour land on squares K16, K15, K14,  
K13, L13, L12, M12, L11, M11, L10, M10,  
N10, O10, N9, O9 BROWN for the  
Angles.

Now stick your name labels on your  
map. The letters on the map will help  
you.



Your map will look like  
this one but the colours  
are different!

### LABELS FOR SIXTH CENTURY MAP

IONA

IRELAND

SCOTLAND

CANTERBURY

COLUMBA'S  
ROUTE

Cut them out and stick  
them on your map

## Sixth Century Dates 501-600CE

# 536CE

Big volcano, perhaps Krakatoa, erupts in the Pacific. No sun in Britain for most of the year, no food and many die of hunger.



# 559CE

Angles start Kingdom of Deira in the north. It joins Bernicia to become Northumbria.



# 563CE

Columba travels in a currach from Ireland to Iona in Scotland.



Curragh or coracle made of wicker and leather.

# 597CE

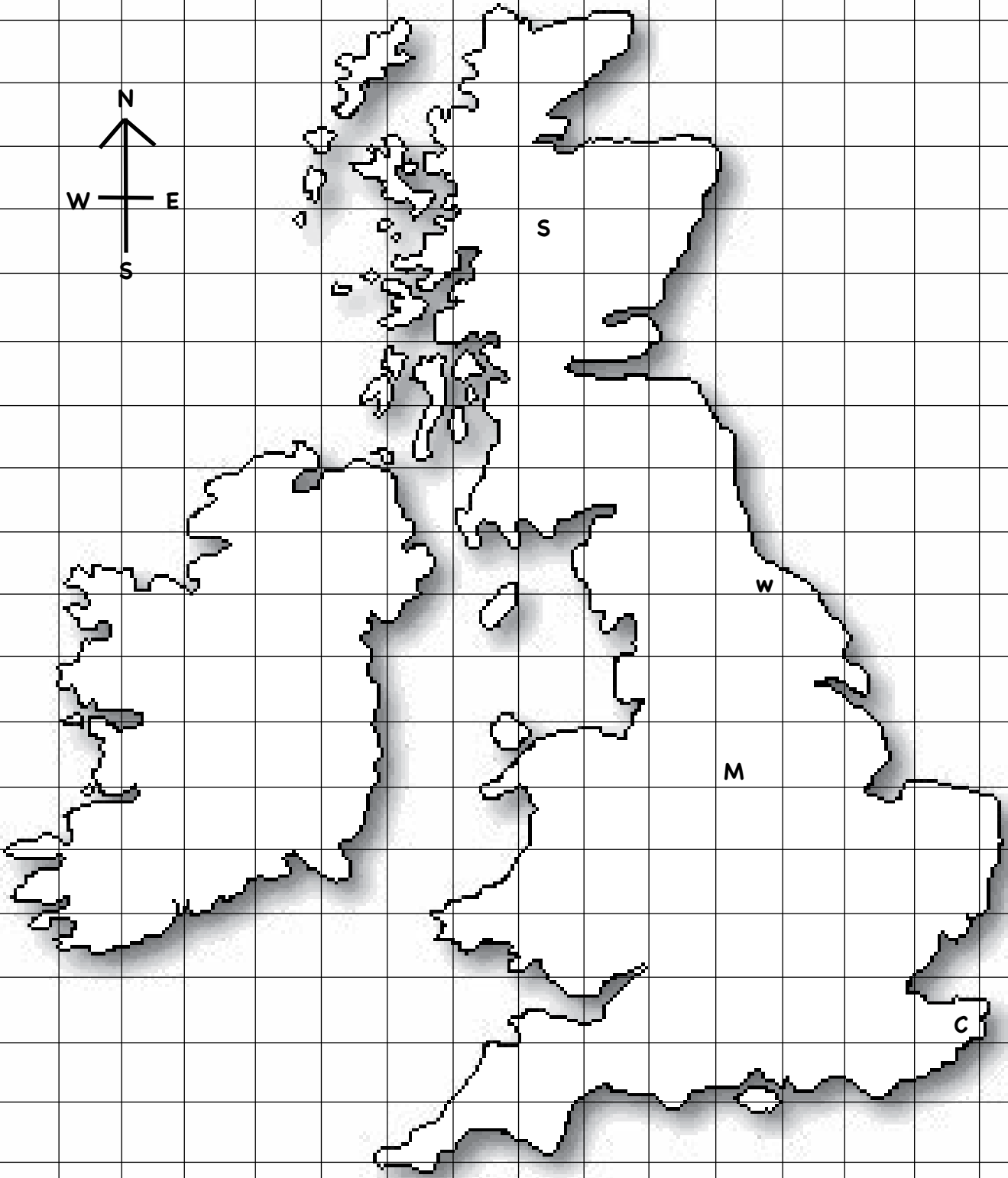
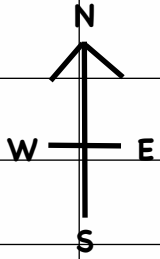
Augustine travels from Rome to Canterbury in Kent.





**MAP OF GREAT BRITAIN  
AND IRELAND**

**THE SEVENTH CENTURY**



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## SEVENTH CENTURY: what is happening.

The Anglo Saxons have seven kingdoms. They fight each other and the Britons.

Wulfhere, son of Penda, becomes king of Mercia and becomes a Christian.

Bishops from British and Roman church meet in Whitby and unite the church.

Aethelred of Mercia defeats Ecgrith of Northumbria and Mercia grows bigger and takes over smaller kingdoms.

Picts in Scotland also defeat Northumbria.

### MAP MAKING INSTRUCTIONS

Only colour the land and not the sea!

Colour land on squares J16, K16, J15, K15, K14, L14, K13, L13, K12, L12, M12, J11 BROWN for Northumbria kingdom of the north Angles.

Colour land on squares K11, L11, M11, K10, M10, N10, K9, L9, M9, L8, M8, N8, L7, M7 GREEN for Mercia.

Colour land on squares N9, O9, P9, O8, P8, O7 BLUE for kingdom of East Angles.

Colour land on squares J6, K6, L6, M6, J5, K5, L5, M5 YELLOW for Wessex land of West Saxons.

Colour land on squares N7, O7 ORANGE for the East Saxons.

Colour land on squares N6, O6, N5, O5 for the kingdom of Kent.

Now stick your name labels on your map.  
The letters on the map will help you.



Your map will look like this one but the colours are different!

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## LABELS FOR SEVENTH CENTURY MAP

WHITBY	CANTERBURY	MERCIA	SCOTLAND	WESSEX	ESSEX
NORTHUMBRIA	KENT	EAST ANGLIA			

Cut them out and stick them on your map

## Seventh Century Dates

# 658CE

Wulfhere, son of Penda, proclaimed king of Mercia. Becomes a Christian.



# 664CE

Council/Synod of Whitby. British and Roman church meet to decide date of Easter.



Ruined church and monastery at Whitby.

# 679CE

Aethelred of Mercia defeats Egfrith of Northumbria at Battle of the Trent.



# 685CE

Picts defeat Egfrith at Dunnachen.



Pictish warrior with tattoos.

# 655CE

Battle of Winwaed Oswiu  
king of Northumbria defeats  
Penda of Mercia.



Stained glass window with  
Penda, last pagan king.

# 690CE

Death of Theodore,  
Archbishop of Canterbury.

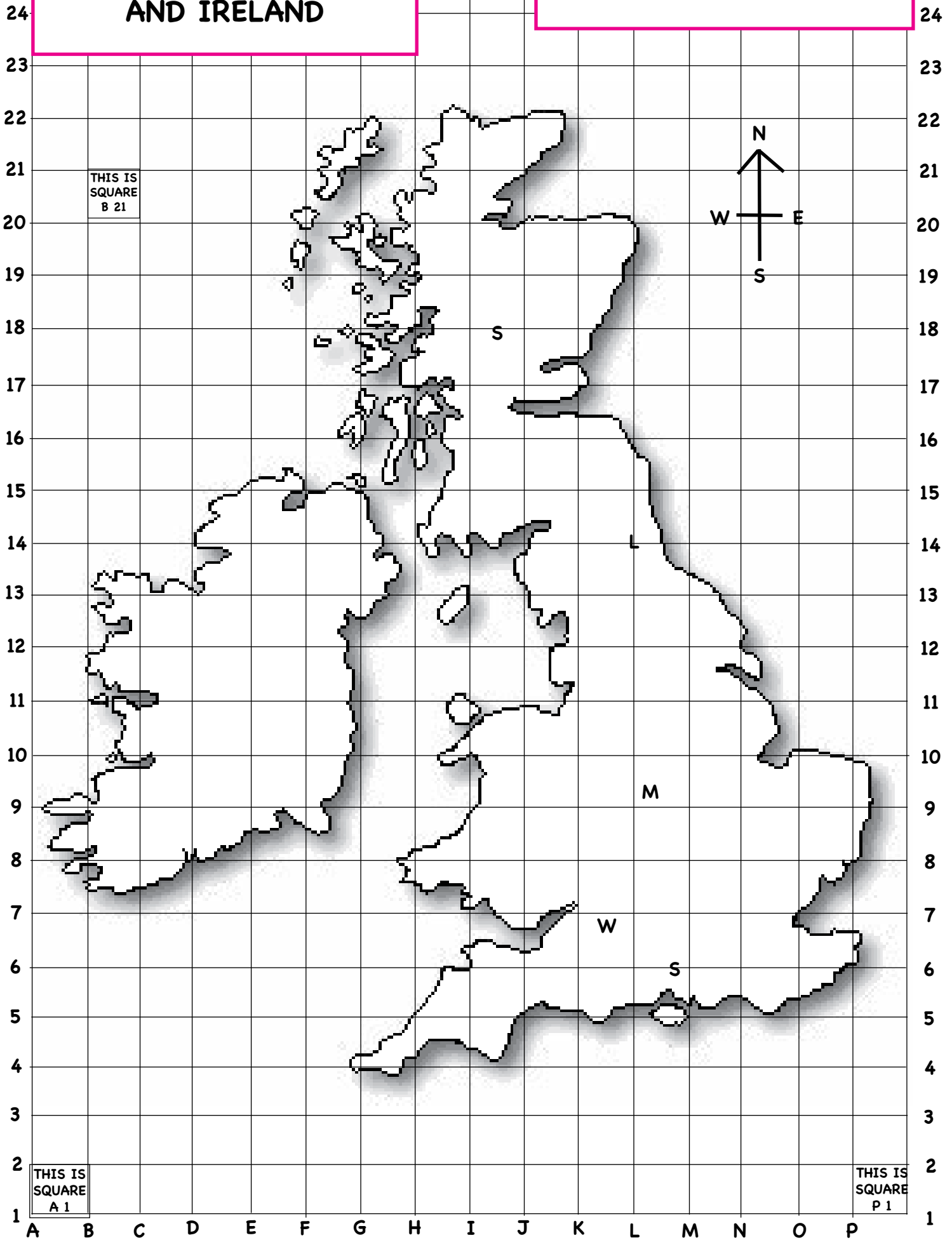


He united the church in  
England.

Extra dates

# MAP OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND

# THE EIGHTH CENTURY





## Eighth Century Dates

# 757CE

Offa becomes king of Mercia extends to Sussex and Kent



Mercia becomes bigger and stronger.

# 770CE

Offa's builds a Dyke that you can still see today.



Border between Powys and Mercia.

# 780CE

Offa's has special silver pennies minted



# 793CE

Vikings attack Lindisfarne. This is the first of many attacks on monasteries.



EXTRA DATES.

# 716CE

Aethelbald of Mercia reigns for forty years ruler of the English until 757.



Mercia becomes strong.

# 780CE

Offa and Charlemagne have a trade agreement for wool and black stone.

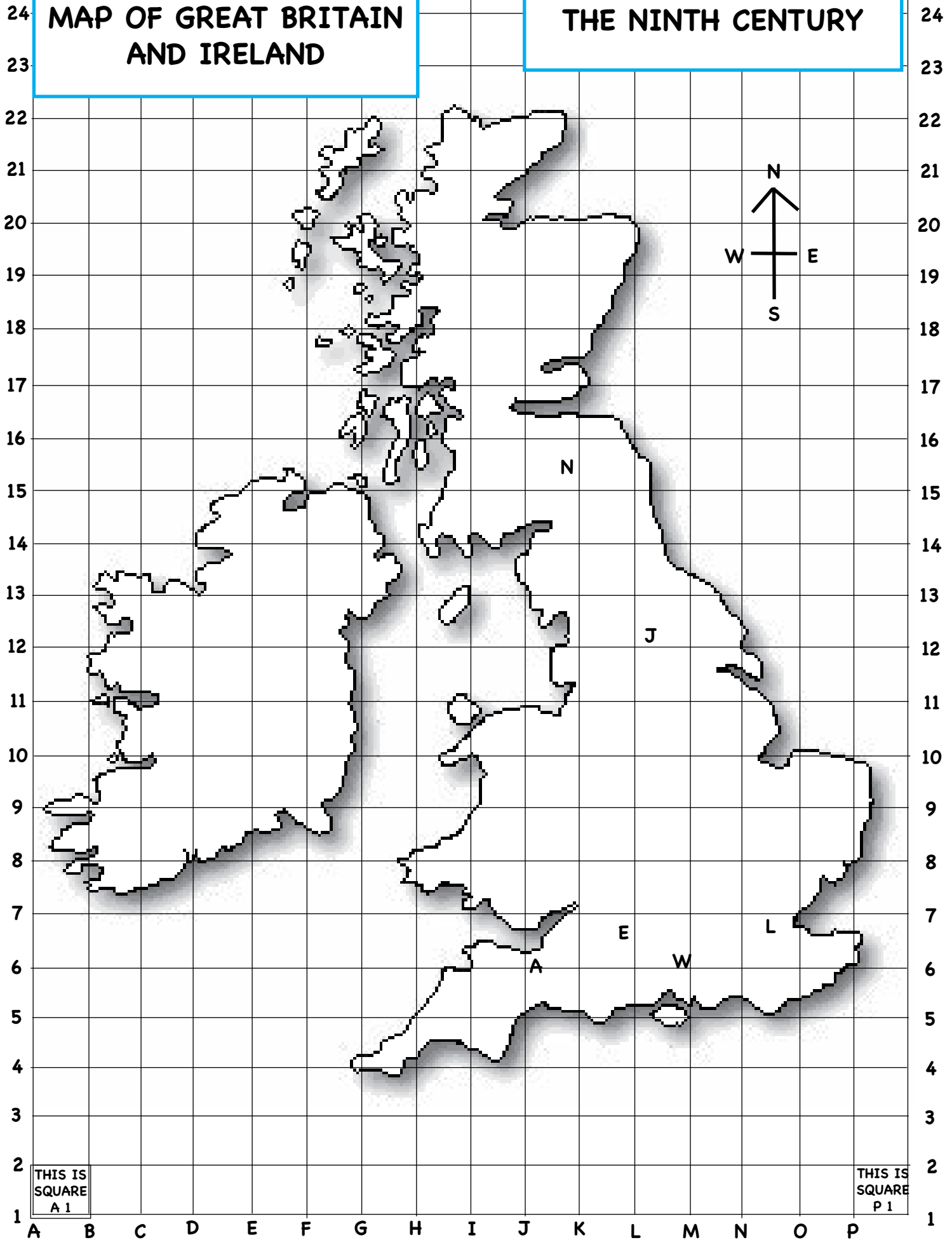


Quern or grindstone made of black stone from Charlemagne's kingdom.



**MAP OF GREAT BRITAIN  
AND IRELAND**

**THE NINTH CENTURY**



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## NINTH CENTURY: what is happening.

Ecgbert of Wessex conquers Mercia and Cornwall and becomes ruler of "England".

The great Heathen army of Vikings comes and does not go away.

Alfred becomes king and builds burhs and ships to fight the Vikings.

He makes peace and England is divided between the Danelaw and Wessex.

### MAP MAKING INSTRUCTIONS

Draw the border between Wessex and the Danelaw from K11 to O7.

Draw the border between Wales and Wessex from K11 to K7.

Draw the border between the Danelaw and Northumbria from K13 to M14.

Draw the border between Scotland and Northumbria from J17 to K13.

Colour the Danelaw green, Wessex blue and Northumbria brown.

Stick your labels on the places on the map.



Your map will look like this one but the colours are different!

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## LABELS FOR NINTH CENTURY MAP

ATHELNEY

EDINGTON

WINCHESTER

LONDON

JORVIK

NORTHUMBRIA

FLEECEFIELD SCHOOL

## Ninth Century Dates

# 828CE

Ecgbert of Wessex conquers Mercia becomes ruler of Britain (bretwalda)



Wessex get stronger but Vikings keep attacking.

# 866CE

Great Army of Vikings arrive in East Anglia and does not go home. Many towns and monasteries attacked and burned down.



# 875CE

Alfred builds ships and burhs. He sometimes defeats the Danes and sometimes pays them money to go away.



# 878CE

Alfred hides in Athelney in the marshes. He comes out and beats the Danes and makes peace. England is divided into Danelaw and Alfreds kingdom.



EXTRA DATES

# 816CE

School of English pilgrims in Rome burnt down.



Many English monks went to Rome to study and they had a burh there.

# 837CE

33 Danish Ships attack Southampton in Wessex.



x 30

Viking raids happen all round Britain.

# 845CE

Ragnar, the Viking, sails up the River Seine and attacks Paris. .



Viking raids in Europe. 120 ships attack Paris.

# 871CE

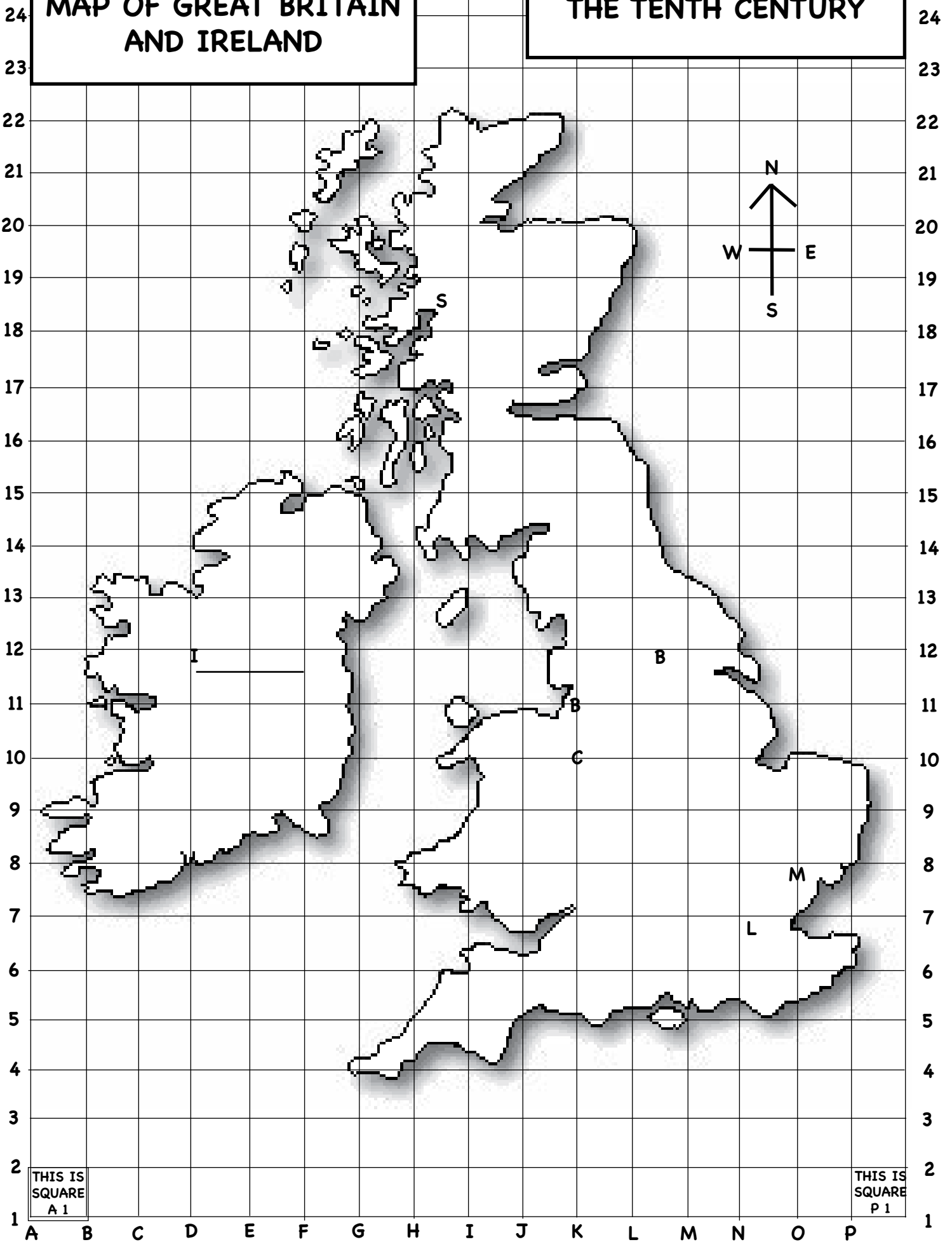
Alfred becomes king.



There are lots of stories about King Alfred. This one is about burnt cakes.

**MAP OF GREAT BRITAIN  
AND IRELAND**

**THE TENTH CENTURY**



## TENTH CENTURY: what is happening.

Athelstan and Aethelfleath becomes king and queen of all England and push back the Vikings. Unfortunately they both die suddenly.

Aethelred the Unwise becomes king and rules badly to 1016.

Danes return and attack Chester and other burhs. Aethelred pays them to go away and pays and pays them.

Battle of Maldon. Danes defeat Brytnoth. Can things get worse??

### MAP MAKING INSTRUCTIONS

Draw the border between Wessex and the Danelaw from K11 to O7.

Draw the border between Wales and Wessex from K11 to K7.

Draw the border between the Danelaw and Northumbria from K13 to M14.

Draw the border between Scotland and Northumbria from J17 to K13.

Colour the Danelaw green, Wessex blue and Northumbria brown.

Stick your labels on the places on the map. The letters on the map will help you.



This map shows the good work of Athelstan and Aethelfleath.

### LABELS FOR TENTH CENTURY MAP

CHESTER

MALDON

BRUNANBURH

BRUNANBURH

LONDON

NORTHUMBRIA

## Tenth Century Dates

# 937CE

Athelstan defeats Scots, Irish, Welsh and Vikings at Brunanburg and becomes king of all Britain.



We are not sure where the battle took place.

# 979CE

Long reign of Aethelred the Unwise to 1016.



# 980CE

Danes return and attack Chester. Aethelred pays them to go away



There are still walls all around Chester.

# 991CE

Battle of Maldon.  
Danes defeat Bryhtnoth.



There is a famous poem about the fight.

# 991CE

Treaty with Richard Duke of  
Normandy

# 959CE

Edgar becomes ruler of all  
the English but he dies two  
years later.

# 913CE

Aethelfleath, Lady of  
Mercia, builds burhs at  
Stafford and Tamworth.



EXTRA DATES

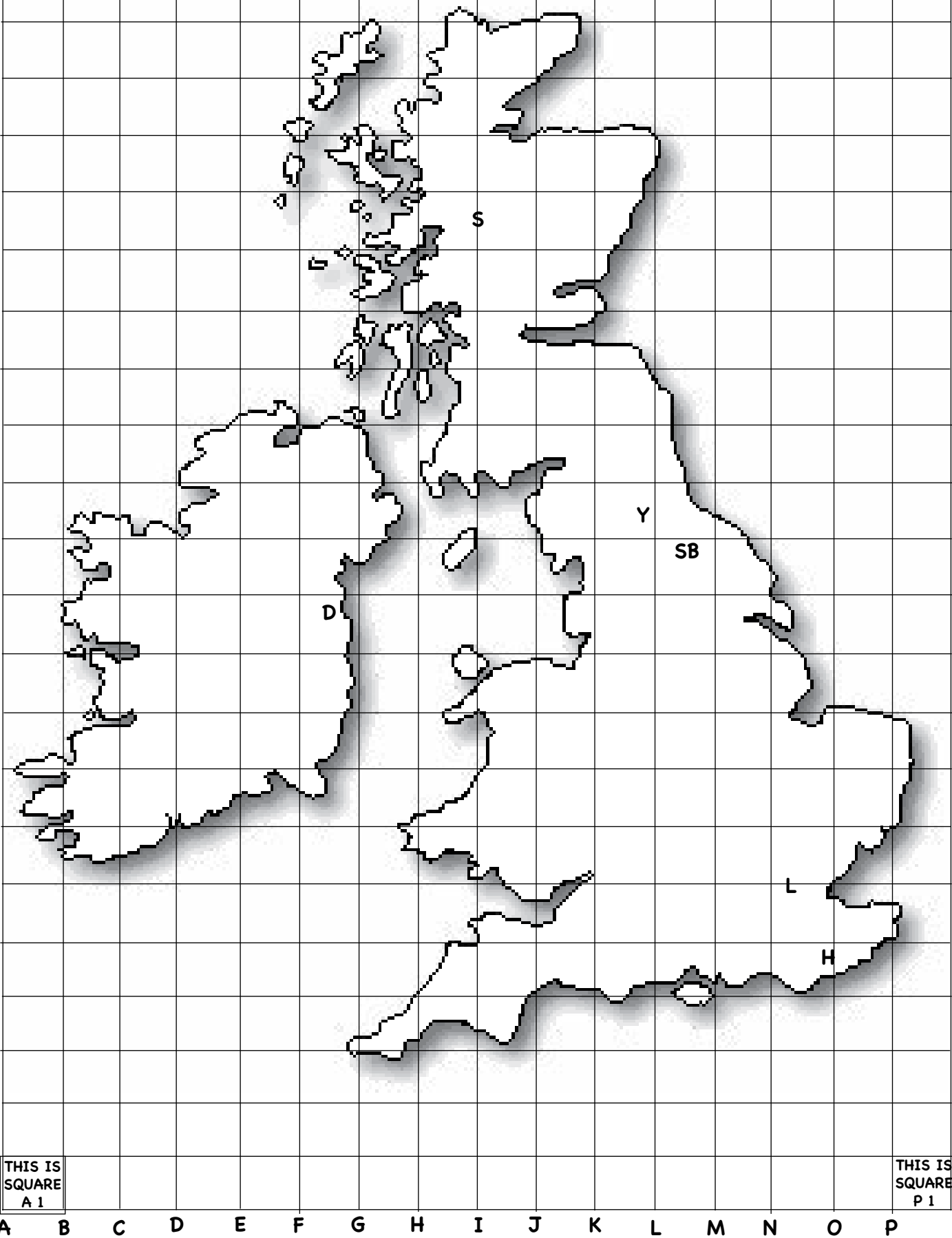


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**MAP OF GREAT BRITAIN  
AND IRELAND**

**THE ELEVENTH CENTURY**

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## ELEVENTH CENTURY: what is happening until 1066.

Athelred kills many peaceful Danes on St Brice's Day. The Danes Sweyn and his son Cnut defeat Athelred, but his son Edmund "Ironside" fights them well. They make peace and divide England.

Edmund is soon after killed by the traitor Eadric so Cnut becomes king of all England.

Cnut's son Harthcanute dies suddenly, so Edward "the Confessor" becomes king. He is a clever king and chooses Harold Godwinson to be his heir.

When Harold becomes king he defeats Tostig and Harald Hardrada, but then William of Normandy defeats him.

### MAP MAKING INSTRUCTIONS

- Draw the border between England and the Danelaw from K11 to O7.
- Draw the border between Wales and England from K11 to K7.
- Draw the border between Scotland and England from K12 to K15 then from K15 to J16 and then from J16 to L16.
- Stick your labels on the places on the map. The letters on the map will help you.



Here is a map about Harold Godwinson's battles.



STAMFORD  
BRIDGE

LONDON

HASTINGS

YORK

SCOTLAND

DUBLIN

**LABELS FOR ELEVENTH CENTURY MAP**

# Eleventh Century Dates

## 1002CE

Aethelred orders all Danes to be killed on St Brice's day.



## 1013CE

Sweyn and then Cnut become king with help of Thorkell the Tall. Aethelred goes to Normandy.



This is the legend of king Cnut telling the tide to stop.

## 1042CE

Edward the Confessor becomes king. He builds Westminster Abbey.



This is Edward's tomb in Westminster.

## 1066CE

Harold defeats Tostig and Harald Hardrada at Stamford Bridge, but is defeated by William at Hastings.



# 1030CE

EXTRA DATES



Lady Godiva wife of Earl Leofric makes her protest in Coventry to stop taxes.