

THOUYT NIMROSA ETORNT NST COMISA FO AONS YCNOOT

GET READY TO BE A

**SAXON**

WITH THOSE HISTORY PEOPLE

THIS YEAR ABOUT MID-WINTER, AFTER TWELFTH-NIGHT, THE DANISH ARMY STOLE OUT TO CIPPENHAM, AND RODE OVER THE LAND OF THE WEST-SAXONS; WHERE THEY SETTLED, AND DROVE MANY OF THE PEOPLE OVER SEA; AND OF THE REST THE GREATEST PART THEY RODE DOWN, AND SUBDUED TO THEIR WILL...

ANGLO-SAXON CHRONICLE, YEAR 878

Very soon **Those History People** will visit your school for a **Saxon day**. On this day there will be lots of practical making activities, like *weaving*, learning to *write like a Saxon* or making metal *Thor's Hammers*. You will also learn how to behave like a Saxon including how to be a **huscarl** (warrior).

So that you really feel like a Saxon there are two things you need to do: pick a **name** and get a **costume**.

**PICK A NAME:** On your Saxon day you will need a Saxon name. Saxon names are made of two parts, choose one part and add a second part to it, for example Ælf and rēd makes Ælfrēd.

**Boys names:** If you're a boy choose a name from this list

Choose one: *Ægel Ælf Æsc Æthel Al Ald Alf Bald Beo Beorht Beorn Briht Bryht Byrht Cen Ceol Cuth Cyne Dud Dun Ead Eal Eald Ealh Ean Ecg Ed Eo Eoh Frith Gar God Grim Guth Here Hild Hu Hun Hyge Lan Leo Leod Leof Ord Os Sid Sig Sige Theo Thur Tid Wig Wiht Wil Win Wine Wulf*

Now add: *bald beorht beorth berht briht bryht byrht cytel ferth gar heah heard helm here hun lac maer mund noth raed red ric sig sige stan ulf wald weald weard wig wine wold wulf*

**Female Saxon Names**

Choose one: *Ælf Æthel Ceol Cuth Cyne Ead Ealh Ean Ecg Ed Frith Here Hild Leof Os Sae Wiht Wyn*

Now add: *burg burh flaed gifu gyth hild ith swith thryth wyn*

**NICKNAMES**

*You can choose a nick name from the list below or invent one of your own.*

*Wise, Fox, Fool, Hairy Britches, Flat Nose, Hog-head, Broad-paunch, Short, Stout, Fair, Dark, Halftroll, Forkbeard, Hairy-cheek, Bald, Beardless, Tangle-hair, Trout, Seal, Blood-axe, War Tooth, Long Reach, Iron Sword, Skull-splitter, Hot-head, Trunk-back, Ironside, Anvil-head, Fearless, Gold bearer, Ring Giver, Grim, Silent, Silver-tongued, Word-master, Adder-tongue, Braggart, Crow, Eagle, Healer, Trollwise, Strong-minded, Deep-minded, Boneless.*

## NOTE TO PARENTS

The description of a Saxon costume is very basic. You can purchase a costume online, but these vary in price and accuracy. In addition some cheap nylon costumes are a safety hazard. With a little bit of ingenuity however it is easy to put a costume together on a budget.

### BOYS

**Tunic:** Use an adult long sleeved top with a belt to make a tunic.

**Trousers:** Any baggy trousers will do for Saxon trousers.

**Belt:** simple leather belt or a length of cord.

**Shoes:** Simple plain shoes

**Leg wraps:** for children two 1-1.5 m pieces of fabric. If you visit our website there is a short video on how to wear them: <https://www.thosehistorypeople.co.uk/viking-saxon-legwraps/>.

**Cloak:** Use a large rectangular piece of fabric pinned at the shoulder

### GIRLS

**Kirtle:** a simple plain ankle length dress will do.

**Over Kirtle:** two lengths of fabric fastened with pins at the shoulder

**Belt:** simple leather belt or a length of cord.

**Shoes:** Simple plain shoes

**Cloak:** Use a large rectangular piece of fabric pinned at the shoulder

## WEAPONS AND ARMOUR

Please DO NOT include weapons, shields or armour as part of your children's costume. Any weapons, shields etc will be left in the classroom and not be part of the day.

**COSTUME:** Now you have a Saxon name you will need a costume.

### GIRLS

As a girl you will need to have simple costume which looks like this:

**Kirtle:** this is long length dress which covers the ankles.

**Over Kirtle:** this is a long apron fastened with broaches and decorated with beads.

**Belt:** the belt goes over the top of the kirtles around the waist.

**Shoes:** plain leather shoes fastens with leather thong or wooden toggles.

**Cloak:** to keep you warm.



### BOYS

As a boy you will need to wear something like this:

**Tunic:** a long sleeved, knee length top.

**Breaches:** baggy ankle length trousers

**Belt:** the belt goes over the top of the tunic.

**Leg wraps:** long lengths of fabric wrapped around the shins and ankles to tie back the trousers.

**Shoes:** plain leather shoes fastens with leather thong or wooden toggles.

**Cloak:** to keep you warm.