

The Vikings and Erik the Red

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Summary

This book is about the history of the Vikings and a famous explorer and adventurer named Erik the Red.

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Before Reading

Think Ahead

Look at the picture and answer the questions.



1. What do people sail in to reach different places? _____
2. What are these men called? _____
3. What are these men doing? _____
4. What is the name of a long, thin weapon with sharp edges and a point? _____

Vocabulary

A Read and match.

1.



•

• a. helmet

2.



•

• b. ruins

3.



•

• c. wolf

4.



•

• d. warrior

5.



•

• e. ice age

6.



•

• f. comb

7.



•

• g. dye

8.



•

• h. Inuit

B Write the word for each definition.

saga

adapt

survive

curious

thunder

1. _____ to remain alive
2. _____ the very loud sound that comes from the sky during a storm
3. _____ a long, detailed story
4. _____ having a desire to learn or know more about something or someone
5. _____ to change in order to fit a new situation

C Choose the word that means about the same as the underlined words.

1. Some of the Vikings would shout loudly like wolves during battle!
a. howl b. warrior c. influence d. charge
2. Erik the Red is known in history for his angry moods.
a. ax b. helmet c. survive d. temper
3. The Vikings sailed from their homes and arrived at very far lands.
a. location b. faraway c. dramatic d. energy
4. The word Viking means a person who attacks ships in order to steal things.
a. sword b. ruins c. pirate d. comb

Comprehension

A Match the pictures with the correct sentences.

- a. Erik the Red sailed to a new land, settled there, and called it Greenland.
- b. The Inuit come from North America and know how to live and survive in the cold.
- c. The Vikings eventually returned to Iceland and only left behind ruins in Greenland.



1. _____



2. _____



3. _____

B Choose the best answer.

1. What did the Vikings mostly eat?
 - a. Fish
 - b. Meat
 - c. Bread
 - d. All of the above
2. How did the Vikings have an important influence on the places they settled?
 - a. They built beautiful sailing ships.
 - b. They changed the language and culture.
 - c. They buried their dead heroes in boats.
 - d. They ate two meals a day and were very clean.
3. Where was Erik the Red born?
 - a. Norway
 - b. Iceland
 - c. Canada
 - d. Greenland

C Choose the correct phrase for each picture. One (1) choice will not be used.

- a. A fast Viking sailing ship
- b. A giant from a Viking story
- c. A small ice age in Greenland
- d. A colorful village in Greenland
- e. Erik the Red's house



1. _____



2. _____



3. _____



4. _____

D Read each sentence. Write "T" if it is true or "F" if it is false.

1. _____ The Vikings were clean and took baths almost every day.
2. _____ "Thursday" was named after the Viking god of thunder called Thor.
3. _____ Erik the Red was named after his bad temper.
4. _____ Erik the Red's son, Leif, found a place that he called Vinland.
5. _____ The Vikings could not adapt to the ice age because they didn't have enough warm clothes.

E Complete the sentences with the correct words.

1. The Vikings had sharp axes and _____, and sailed around looking for places to attack.
dye swords
2. Erik was _____ about a country across the sea, so he decided to find it.
curious dramatic
3. The exact _____ of Vinland is not known today, but many people think it was in Canada.
faraway location
4. Erik the Red was kicked out of Iceland for _____.
murder influence
5. After the Vikings, the _____ arrived in Greenland from North America to settle.
warriors Inuit

F Number the events in order from 1=first to 5=last.

- a. _____ Erik the Red sailed to a new land, explored it, and finally settled there.
- b. _____ Erik the Red moved to Iceland when he was about 10 years old.
- c. _____ Erik the Red had a son, Leif Eriksson, who was also an explorer.
- d. _____ Erik the Red was forced to leave Iceland in about the year 982.
- e. _____ Erik the Red convinced more than 400 people from Iceland to move to Greenland.

Think About It

A Look in the reader to write the answers to the following 5-W questions.

Who?	What?	When?	Where?	Why?
The greatest explorers, the _____, lived in Northern Europe more than 1,000 years ago.	The Vikings built beautiful sailing _____ and sailed from their homes and settled across Europe.	One famous Viking _____ and adventurer, Erik the Red, was forced to leave Norway and discovered Greenland in about 982.	Erik convinced people from Iceland to move to _____.	People who lived in Greenland eventually disappeared because the island became too cold during an _____.

B Complete the sentences below with your own ideas.

From this book, I learned _____

_____.

Before I read this book, I knew _____

_____.

Now I also know _____

_____.