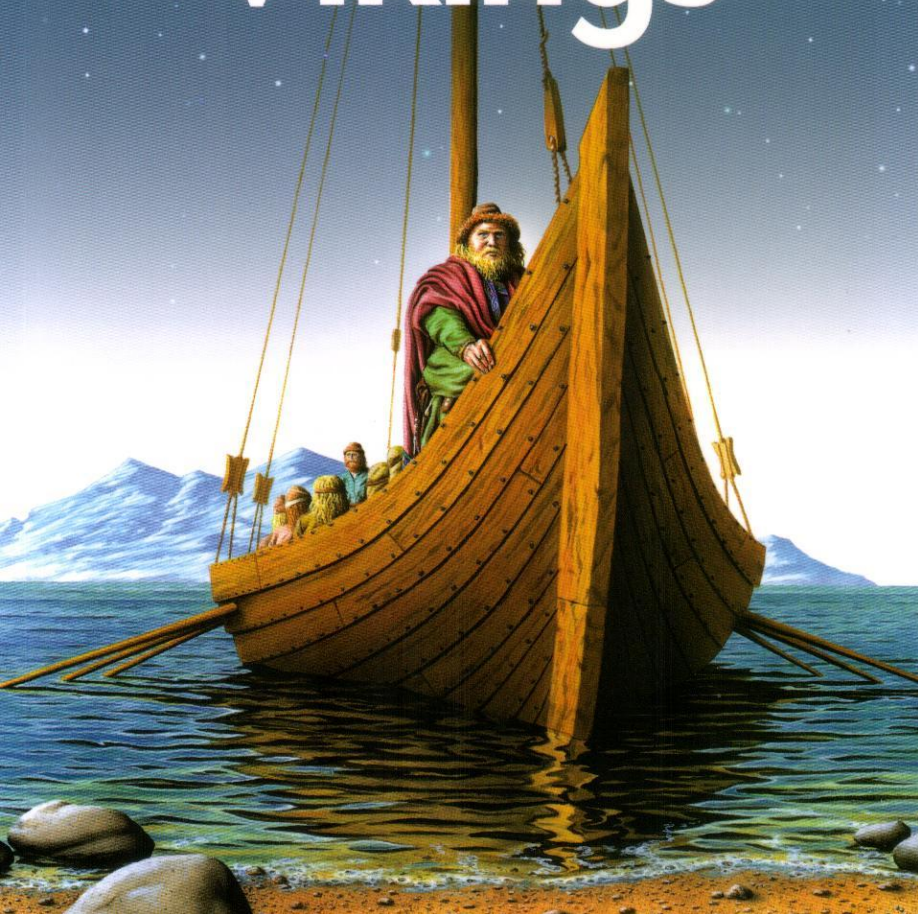


  
TopReaders

Stage 1

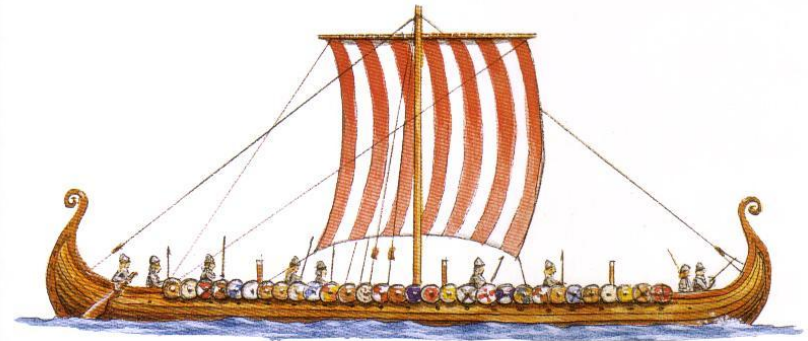
HISTORY

# Vikings



Stage 1

  
TopReaders  
**Vikings**



Denise Ryan

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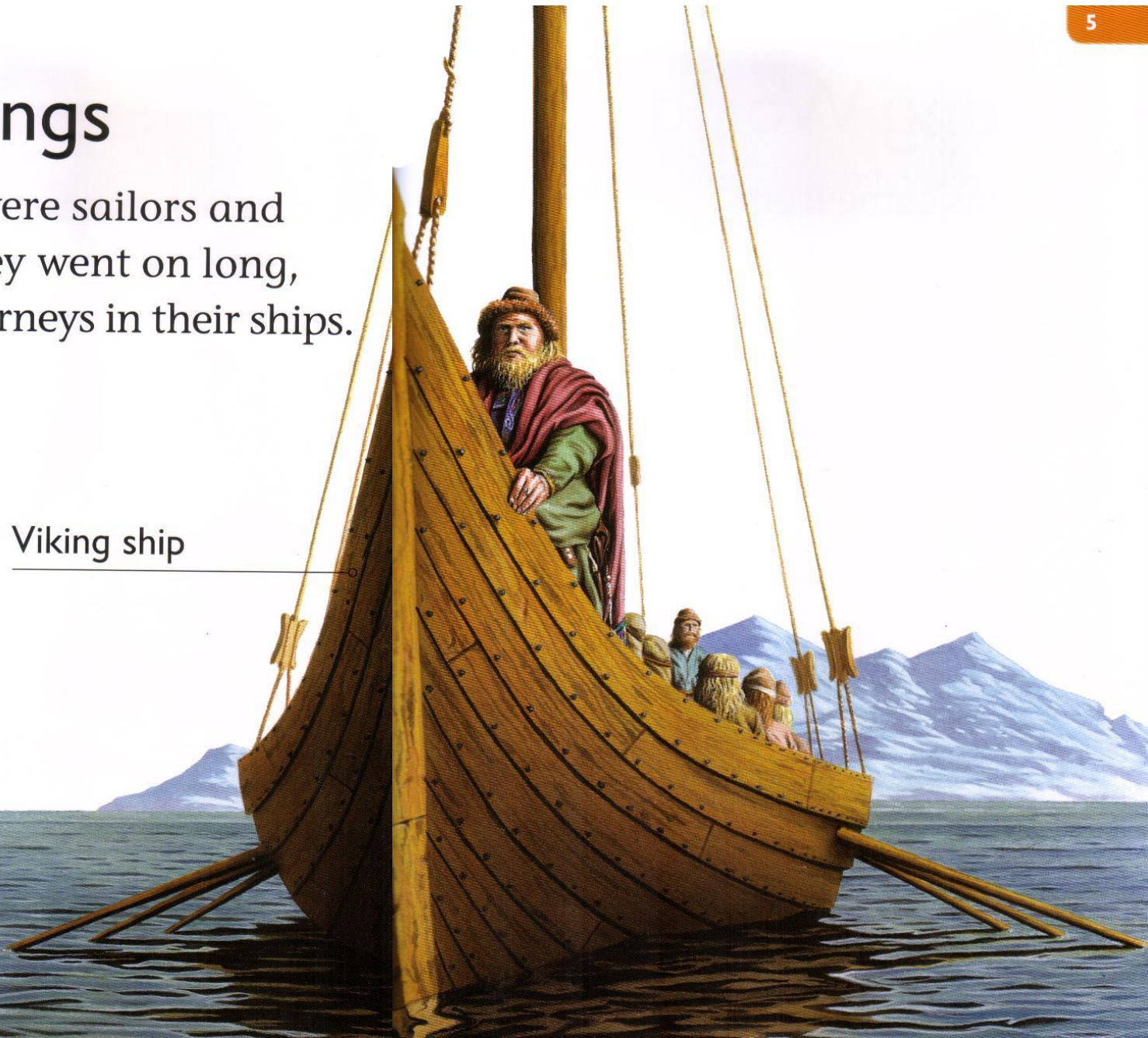
Who were the Vikings?  
Let's find out.

# The Vikings

The Vikings were sailors and explorers. They went on long, dangerous journeys in their ships.

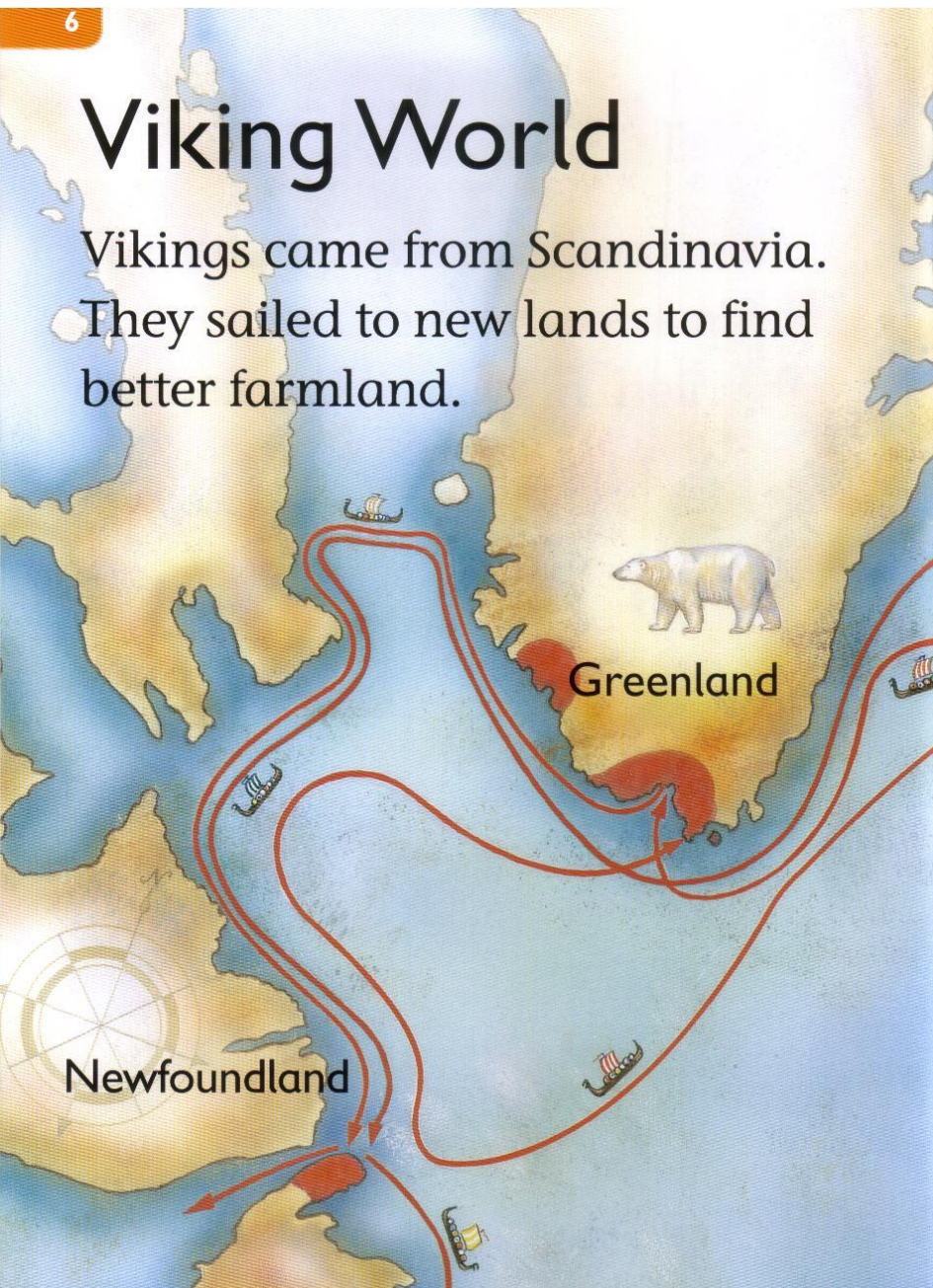
Viking ship

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# Viking World

Vikings came from Scandinavia.  
They sailed to new lands to find better farmland.



The red parts on this map show where the Vikings lived and traveled.

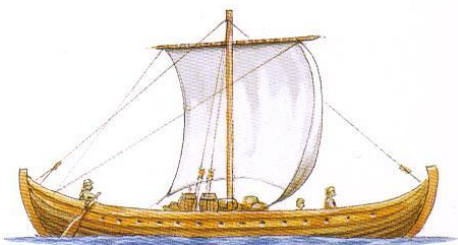


# Ships

Viking ships were strong and fast. Large ones had sails. Teams of people rowed some ships.

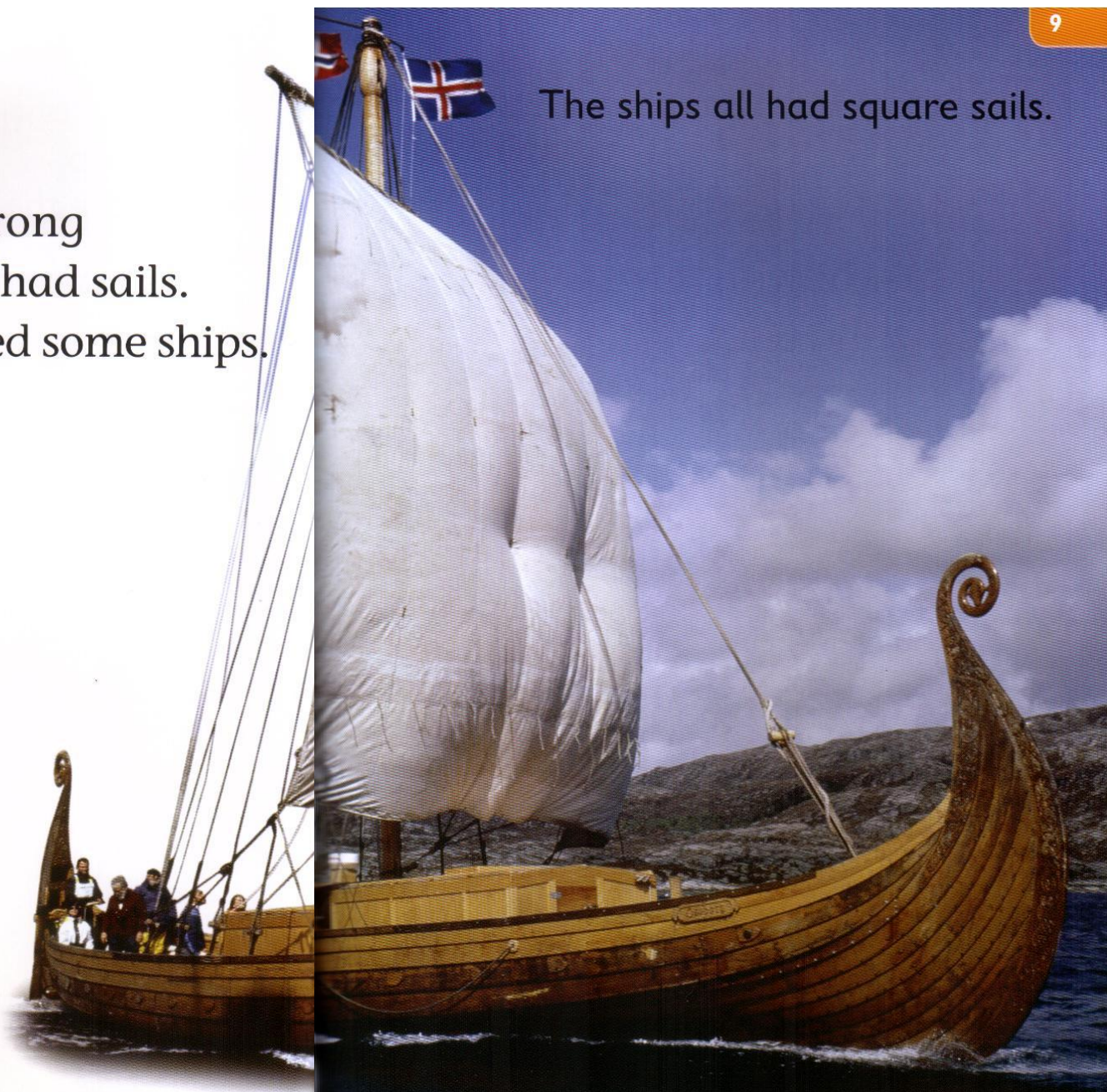


longship



trading ship

The ships all had square sails.

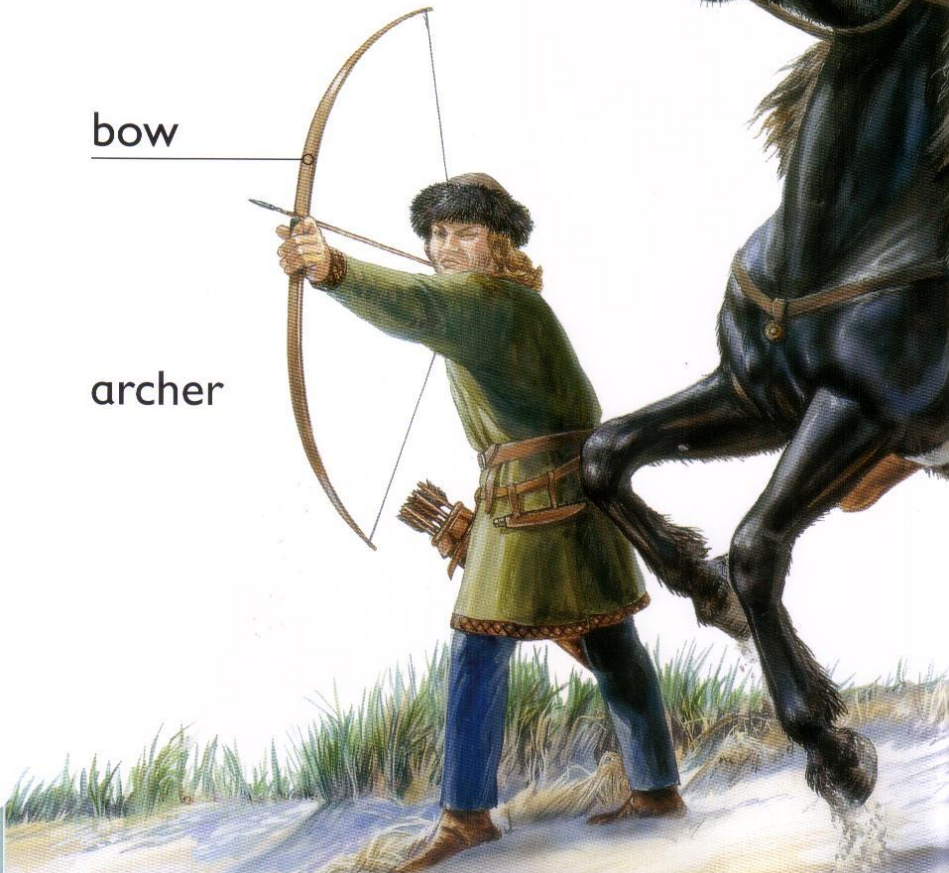


# Warriors

Vikings were fierce warriors. They fought with bows, swords, and axes.

bow

archer



sword

chief



Chiefs rode on horses. Archers and peasants were on foot.

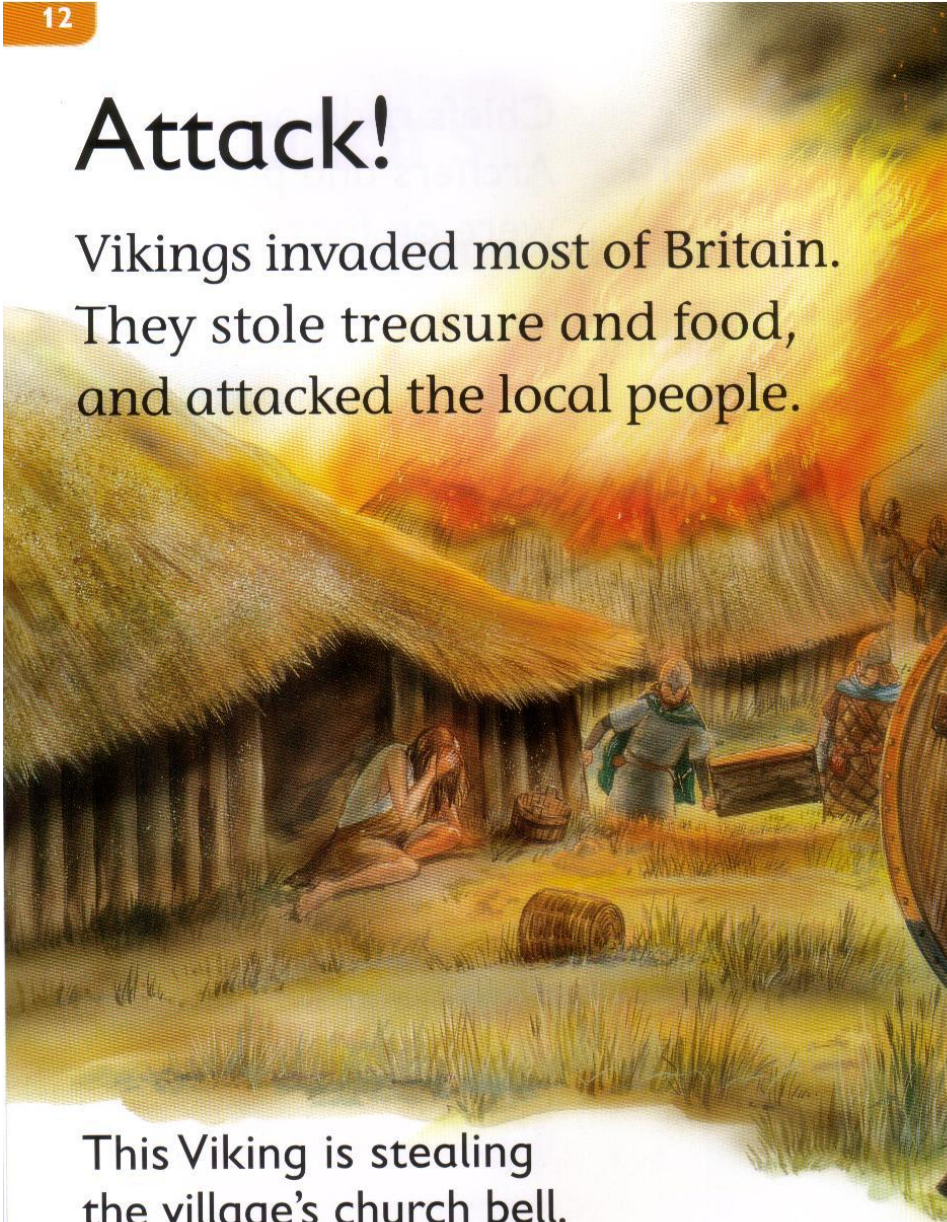
ax

peasant



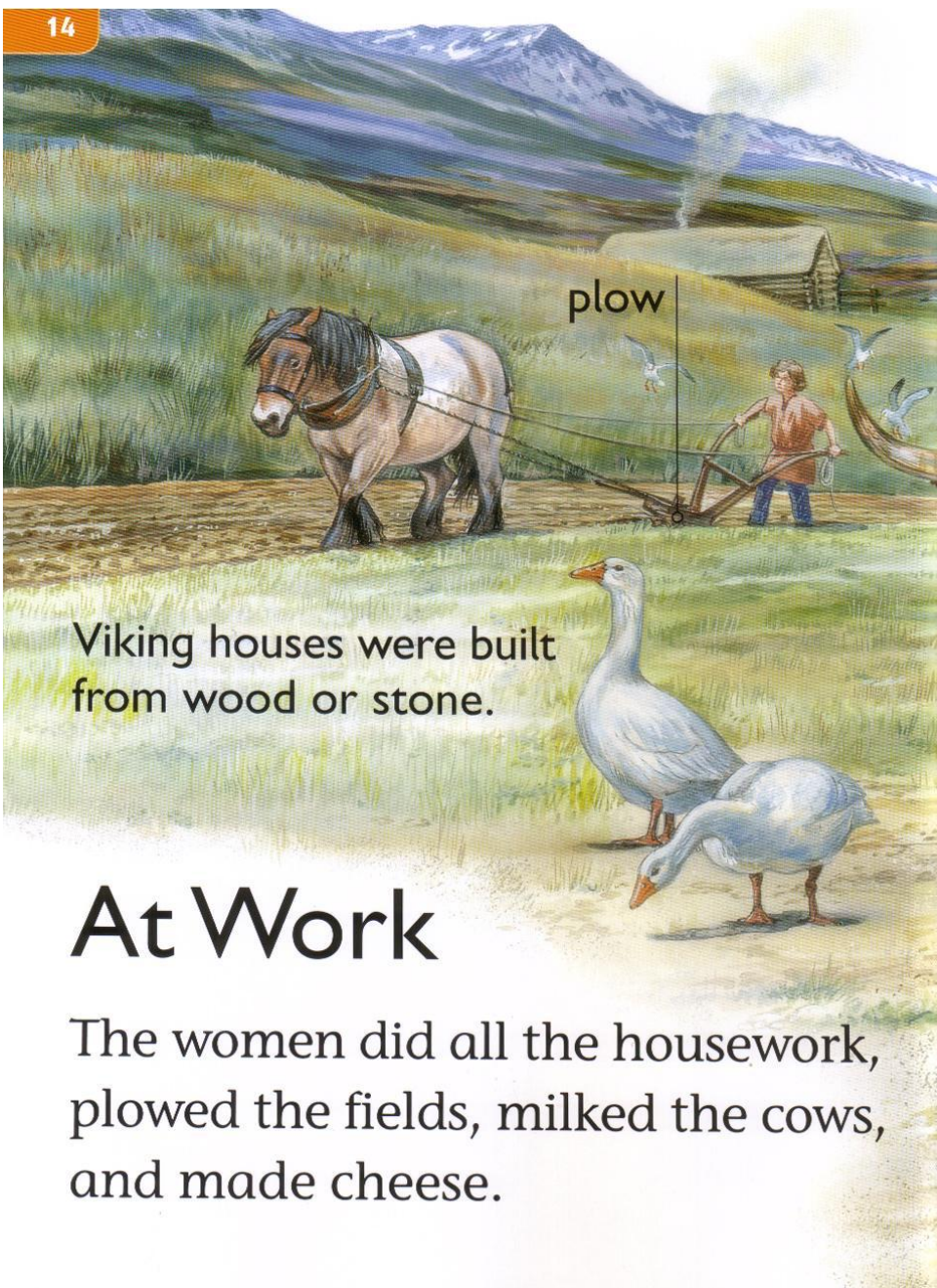
# Attack!

Vikings invaded most of Britain. They stole treasure and food, and attacked the local people.



This Viking is stealing the village's church bell.

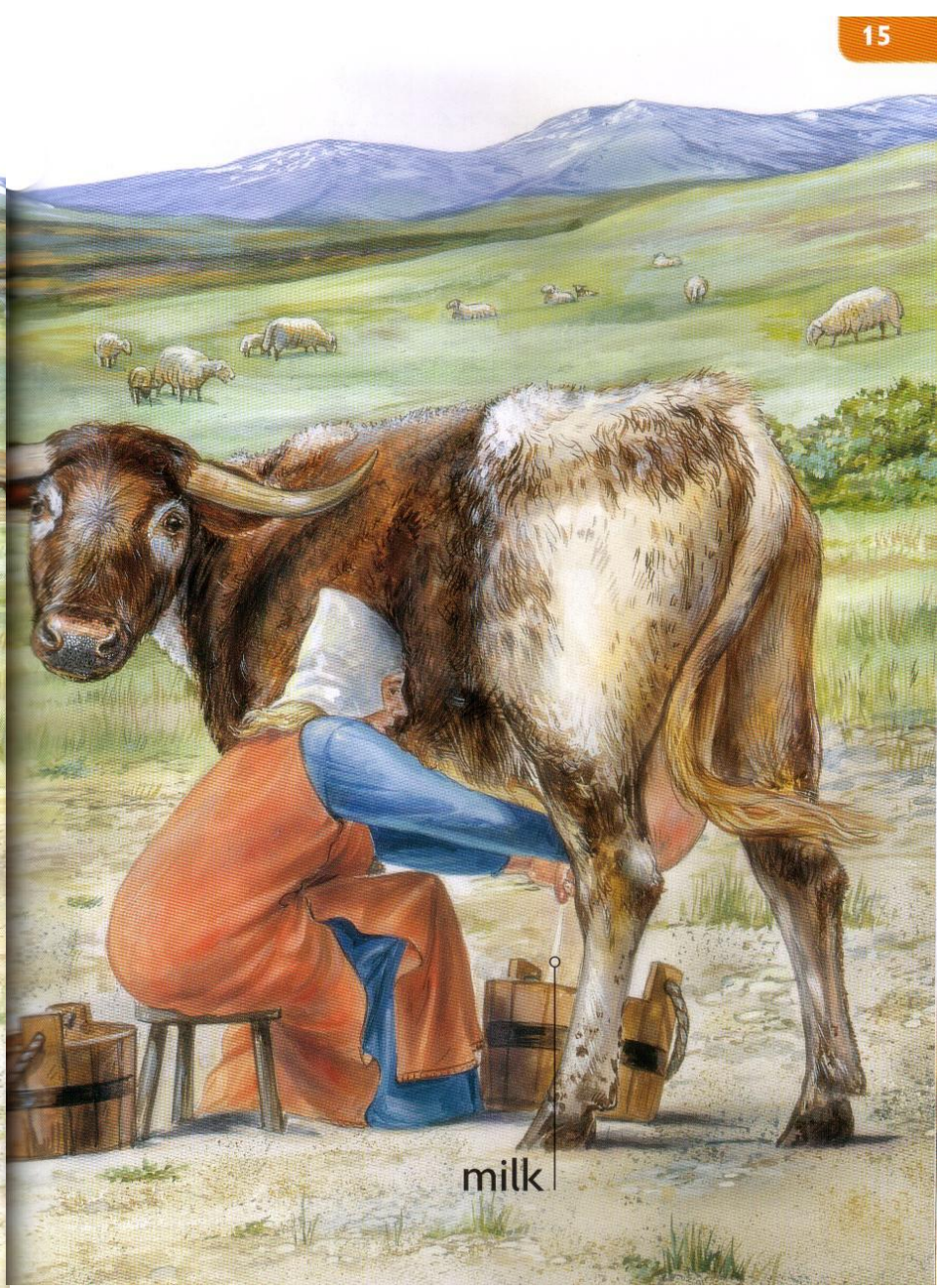




Viking houses were built from wood or stone.

## At Work

The women did all the housework, plowed the fields, milked the cows, and made cheese.





# Making Clothes

The women sheared sheep.  
Then they spun the wool and  
wove it into fabric.

The women  
also sewed all  
the family's  
clothes.



wool

shears

fabric



# At Home

There was always a big kettle of meat and vegetable stew for the family to eat.

Food was served in wooden bowls and dishes.



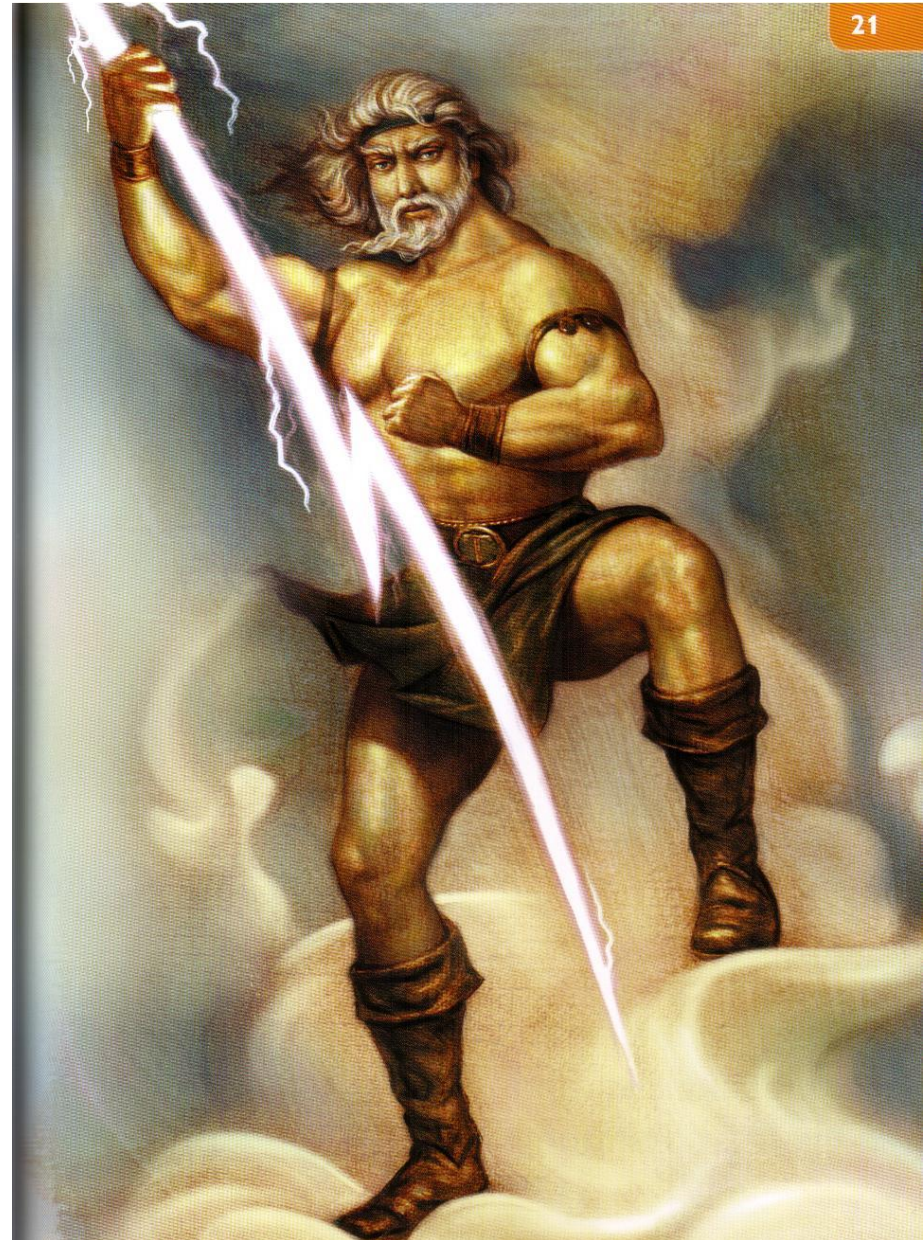
# Gods and Myths

The Vikings had many gods. They told myths, or stories, about the gods battling giants.

They told stories about a wolf called Fenrir.



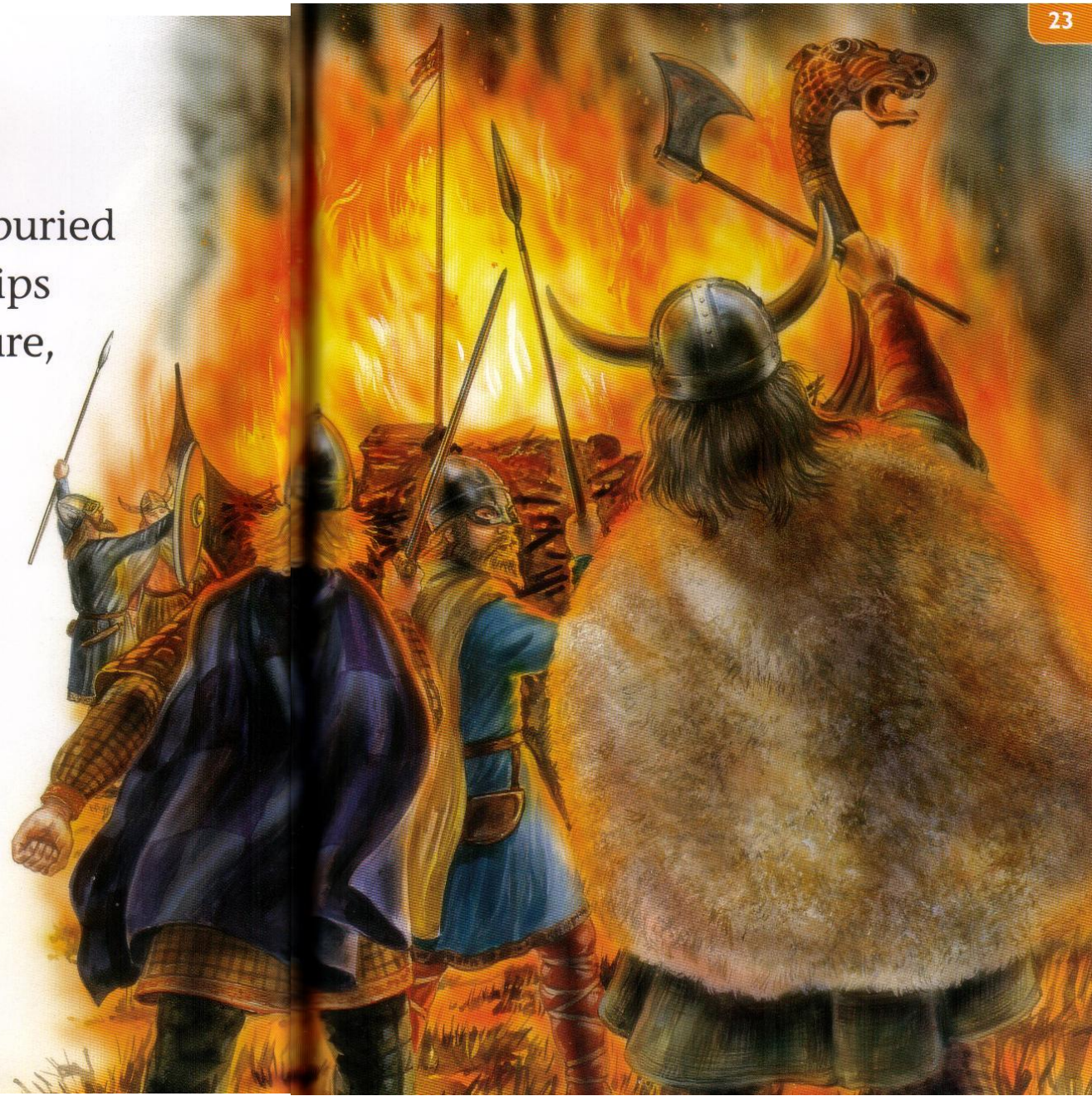
Thor, the Viking god of thunder and rain, ruled the skies and protected people.



# Burials

Viking warriors were buried in their ships. The ships were filled with treasure, weapons, and food, then set on fire.

The front of this longship is shaped like a snake's head.



# Quiz

Can you match each picture with its name?



longship  
sheep

chief  
Thor



## TopReaders

*How to share these books with your children*

Stage  
**1**

These books are designed for children who are beginning to read. Each book invites children to become excited about a topic. The words and pictures are closely matched to support the reader.

- ☆ **Look at the book together** so that your child gradually builds an understanding of how books and words work.
- ☆ **Discuss what the book is going to be about.** Look through the book, talking about the title, the pictures, and the words.
- ☆ **Read the book aloud**, occasionally pointing to the words and the pictures. Then, ask your child to find his or her favorite pages and read them together.
- ☆ **Ask your child what his or her favorite words were** and find them together. Point to them as you read them. Talk about the meaning of each word, the name of the letter that the word starts with, and what sound it makes.
- ☆ **Ask your child to tell you all about the book you have just read** and then ask "What shall we read next?" Encourage your child to choose another book and tell you what it is going to be about.