

FAMILY ACTIVITY SHEET

Viking Dublin



The warrior in front of you was the first Viking king of Dublin 'Olaf the White'. The Vikings often gave each other strange names like 'Ivar the Boneless' and 'Harald Redbeard'.

1 Write your own Viking name here.

2 Think of a Viking name for the person you are with.

NOW FIND THE AREA THAT LOOKS LIKE A SHIP

The Vikings came to Ireland by sea in fast ships called longships. Look at the map and the sea chest. Answer the questions below.

3 The Vikings that came to Ireland came from what country?



4 How long did it take them to sail to Dublin?

GO INTO THE VIKING CAMP

The word 'Viking' means 'pirate'. Vikings sailed around the coast of Ireland and attacked monasteries. They stole money and food from the monks and brought them back to Norway.

Look around the room. What would a Viking need to bring with him if he was going into battle? Write down two weapons.

Try on the Viking helmet beside the tent!

5

a

b

Weapons were very precious to Viking warriors. They even had nasty names for their swords such as 'leg-biter' or 'skull-splitter'.

6

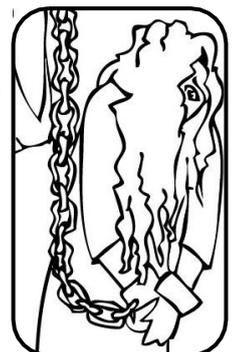
What nasty name would you give your sword?

WALK INTO THE QUAYSIDE

Feel how heavy the slave chains are!

The Viking camp grew into a busy place. More people came to live there. There was a market where people could buy and sell goods.

You can see many of these goods laid out on the quayside. There is even a young girl being sold as a slave!



7

Write down two words to describe how you would feel if you were this little girl.

I would feel _____ and _____.

STROLL DOWN THE STREET TO THE VIKING HOUSE

There is a little boy playing outside the house with a wooden boat. When he is old enough he will be sent on raids with the other warriors. Inside there is a little girl helping her mother. She is grinding corn to make flour for bread. Viking homes were very different from today's. The whole family slept and lived in a house this size!

8Do you think your family would all fit in a Viking house? Yes No **GO OUTSIDE TO THE NEXT ROOM**

The Vikings loved telling stories. There were even professional storytellers called 'skalds'. Today, writers and film makers use Viking stories in their work. Watch the Lord of the Rings movie clip.

Write your
name in
Viking
runes.

9

Have you seen any other movies or cartoons based on the Vikings? If so what?

Now you have seen how strange and wonderful Dublin was when the Vikings were here. Go upstairs to see what happened next in Dublin's history.

Medieval Dublin

After the Vikings, more people came to live in Dublin. Many moved to Dublin from England. They made lots of changes to the town.

**WALK THROUGH THE DOOR OPPOSITE THE STAIRS**

This medieval house belonged to a wealthy merchant named Peter Higley. He has a much bigger house than the Vikings. He has a big fireplace, nice food, a two storey house and even a servant.

Sit down at the kitchen table. Wealthy people ate from expensive metal plates. Lift up each plate.

**Toilets
and baby
changing
facilities
are on this
floor.**

10

What type of plate did the servant eat from?

A plate made of _____.

Find two boys playing a medieval game outside the house. They are using stones and chalk to play their board game. Their mother is calling to them from a window nearby?

11

What do you think she is saying?

Nearby is a shoe stall. On it are the types of shoes people wore in medieval Dublin. The pointy shoes were worn by wealthy people like Peter Higley. He would have thought he looked very smart!



12 Ask the person with you if they would wear the pointy shoes?

Yes

No

13 What were children's shoes made from? Lift the shoe to find out.

WALK OVER THE BRIDGE AND GO ONBOARD A MEDIEVAL SHIP

Ships like this brought goods into and out of Dublin. Some goods are still being unloaded from the boat onto the wharf.

14 Put your hand inside one of the bales and touch the object inside. Write down how it feels. Cold? Hard? Furry? Soft?

Watch the dvd to hear about pirates.

GO TO THE FAIR PAST THE SCALE MODEL ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE ROOM

At the fair you can play the drum and make a brass rubbing.

At a fair people bought clothes, food, weapons and had lots of fun too. Merchants who ran a stall had to pay a fee. If they didn't they might be punished by being locked in a pillory.



FIND A MAN BEING PUNISHED

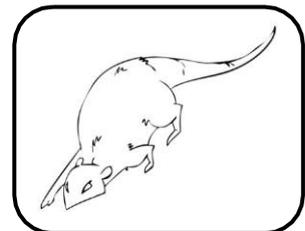
Passers-by would throw rotten vegetables or fruit at people who were locked in the pillory. Let's hope this man did not have to stay there too long as he might catch a cold.

Try and hit the pillory man on the nose and hear him admit his crime!

CONTINUE TO THE NEXT ROOM

Catching a cold in medieval Dublin was very dangerous. People did not know much about medicine and there were very few doctors. The Black Death plague killed thousands of people because there was no medicine.

15 Watch the DVD and answer the question. If you caught the plague what happened to your skin?



Go upstairs to the next floor to experience our Audio Visual show, and The Past Today exhibition.

