

# Danelaw life in Viking Britain

*Unique living history  
services for schools:*

Based at the Yorkshire Museum of Farming since 1992, Danelaw Living History Services offers a range of on-site or in-school services tailored to meet the needs of KS2 National Curriculum History covering a range of periods from the Celts to WWII.

Contact us for further details or to discuss your specific requirements.

**DANELAW CENTRE  
FOR LIVING HISTORY**

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Warriors in training!



Bread Making

A hands-on activity day or half-day for school groups of up to 65 (and 4 adults free of charge). Led by three members of the Living history team, these days support study of life in Viking OR Saxon Britain. Arriving as new settlers, the children will be given simple period costume and taken to their new homes on our dark-age settlement where they will experience first-hand the daily life of a Viking family. They will learn new skills and all about the hard work and dangers that were part of daily life. See over page for further details.



The Danelaw Centre for Living History, based at the Yorkshire Museum of Farming is proud to hold both the quality mark awarded by the Council For Learning Outside The Classroom (2009), and the prestigious Sandford Award for Heritage Education (2010), awarded by the Heritage Education Trust. Both these awards reflect the high quality learning experiences provided by the centre which in the words of the Sandford judges “ ... succeed in bringing history to life, providing children with a memorable educational experience which will enrich their understanding of the past.”



## DANELAW CENTRE FOR LIVING HISTORY

### **Our Philosophy:**

**"I hear and I forget, I see and I remember, I do and I understand!"** Based on this simple educational philosophy, the staff at Murton Park have gained an international reputation for providing educational and entertaining living history experiences for many thousands of children and teachers over the last 18 years.

### **About Your Visit:**

A normal full day visit is designed to run from 10am to 3pm (with a break for lunch), although half-day visits can be catered for and timings tailored in advance to suit your requirements and circumstances.

Your visit to us will be led by three costumed members of the Living History team. The children will play the part of settlers, arriving in a new land and trying to make a new life for themselves and their families. On arrival you will be met by your Viking host. Their initial job will be to confirm the details of the day with the senior member of your staff. The children will be welcomed, shown to the toilets and given an initial safety briefing and orientation talk to set the scene for their day.

The children will be formed into family groups and will be given their own house on the settlement. The children (and adults) will perform a variety of tasks in and around the settlement which has every facility required to make the visit as credible and realistic as possible. As well as domestic tasks which may include house tidying, firewood collecting, grinding grain to make bread and making oil lamps, the settlers will also have to learn about farming and how to guard their homes against danger. The day will end with a visit to the longhouse to compare their home with the home of a Viking Lord.

Emphasis is placed throughout the day on the use of role-play and scenarios to support the learning experience, and the children will have the opportunity to use period equipment and artefacts. The children will also take away anything they make during the day.

### **General Information:**

**Site Facilities:** There is ample car and coach parking available. There is a gift shop on site with a range of items at pocket money prices. Children may visit the shop at the end of the day, or alternatively pre-order items (please ask for further details).

**Preparing for your visit:** Children should wear sensible outdoor clothes and shoes or boots. To save time on the day, the children should be divided into 4 equal groups prior to the visit, unless you have a party of under 20 children, in which case please have them in 3 groups. One of your adult leaders must be assigned to supervise each group. These groups will be 'families', and you will be asked on the day to nominate (sensible and capable) children to act as the 'father' and 'mother' for each family.

### **Charges:**

Full day cost £12.00 per child, Half day cost £8.00 per child (A minimum charge may apply for small groups, please contact us for details).

### **Further information:**

Copies of our in-house risk-assessment can be made available to support schools in their own safety planning and preparation. Please contact us for details.