Meet Thorkel the Viking
WHERE IS THORKEL FROM?
Thorkel the Viking came from the north. We call his land Scandinavia.

Norway, Sweden and Denmark are countries in Scandinavia.
I am from Norway!

There are lots of mountains here and I learned how to sail on the fjords

The water is deep in the fjords
The land was hard to farm on in Scandinavia, so I wanted to explore the seas and set sail!

This is the ship I sailed in called a Longship. I travelled all to England, Scotland and even as far as Turkey!
Viking settlers sailed huge distances in their longships.
Viking Ships

- The Viking ships were strong, lightweight and beautifully shaped to skim quickly through the water.
- Warships and raiding ships were designed to come right up on the beach so that men could jump out and start fighting straight away.
- The ships were built of wood and made waterproof with tar from pine trees.
- The square sails were made of woven wool and were often brightly coloured.
- When the wind was wrong for sailing, they were rowed by teams of oarsmen.
Vikings are most famous for their LONSHIPS - known as DRAGON SHIPS to their enemies.

The Prow - front of the ship carved with a dragon like figure.

The Stern - back of the ship with a carving similar to the one on the front.

Question: Why do you think the Vikings carved dragon like figures onto the front and the back of their ships?
You are going to start designing your own Viking Longship! Follow the next slides and make a note of each of your designs.
My Ship had a TERRIBLY FRIGHTENING carving of an eagle on the front and back to scare the places we were about to fight!

What animal would you put at the front of your ship?
The prow of the Longship often determined the name of the ship. Some of the names of Viking longships were things like "Long Serpent", "Snake of the Sea" and "Horse of the Home of Ice".

Dragon head prow to scare enemies and see the way!

The sail was large and made by women in the family. Made from sheep wool covered with animal fat and tar to strengthen it. Often made from long strips of brightly coloured cloth (blue, green or red) sewn together. What colours what you have on your sail?

Clinker built hull allowed for great speed and strength in stormy seas. Also allowed the ship to be rowed up narrow channels and rivers.

Shields were brightly coloured and were hung over the sides of the ship as it entered port. What would your shields look like?
Viking longships were among the first ever ships to have a keel. The keel is extremely important as it provides the ship with support in rough weather. The keel also enabled the ships to travel smoothly and quickly across the sea. A large oar at the stern steered the ship.
What do you think of the design of the Viking Longship?

Does the Longship look like any kind of boat or ship that you might see today?
Size matters!

• The smallest longships had 26 oars, some had as many as 70 oars!
• How many oars would there be on each side of the ship?

Longships were expensive to build and to crew. Only the rich Viking Kings could afford to have such vessels... Like me!
ORM THE VIKING TELLS US ABOUT THE VIKING BOATS!

• http://www.bbc.co.uk/learningzone/clips/viking-longships/463.html
Task 1:
Design your own Viking Ship!

**Sail**, usually red, green, blue

**Prow**, fierce animal head at the back of the boat.

**Stern**, fierce animal head at the front of the boat.

**Shields**, brightly coloured and hung on side of ship when entering port.

**Oars** would be used as well as the sail for speed or without the sail when no wind.

**The Keel** gave the ship support.
Task 2:
Now that you have designed your Longship, you now need to use the information in the PowerPoint to think about what you would need in order to build a Longship.

• What Parts need to be included?

• What materials will we need to use? Give reasons for each choice

• How big is it going to be?

• How will we use the materials to construct the Viking shape?