

Student Handout #1 – Viking Timeline

Year	Event	Label each event as one of the following: Raid; Settlement; Conquest; Defeat; or Exploration
789	Vikings begin their attacks on England.	
840	Viking settlers found the city of Dublin in Ireland.	
844	A Viking raid on Seville (Spain) is defeated.	
853	Vikings from Norway settle across Ireland.	
860	Vikings attack Constantinople (Istanbul), center of the Byzantine Empire.	
866	Vikings from Denmark establish a kingdom in York, England.	
871	Alfred the Great (not a Viking!), becomes king of England and stops the Danish Viking advance in England.	
886	Alfred makes an agreement with the Danes and divides England with them.	
900	The Vikings raid along the Mediterranean coast.	
911	The Viking chief Rollo is granted land by the Franks and founds Normandy in France. The descendants of these Vikings become known as Normans (men of the north).	
941	Vikings attack Constantinople (Istanbul).	
981	The Viking leader Erik the Red discovers Greenland.	
986	Viking ships sail in Newfoundland waters off the coast of Canada, long before Columbus.	
995	Olav I becomes King of Norway and declares it a Christian kingdom.	
1000	Leif Eriksson, son of Erik the Red, explores the coast of North America.	

1000	Norway is ruled by the Danes.	
1010	Viking explorers attempt to found a settlement in North America.	
1013	The Danes conquer England.	
1015	Vikings abandon the Vinland settlement on the coast of North America.	
1028	King Knut (Canute), king of England and Denmark, conquers Norway.	
1042	Edward the Confessor rules England with the support of the Danes.	
1050	The city of Oslo is founded in Norway and established as a major trade center.	
1066	William, of Norman Viking descent, wins control of England. By this time, the Vikings have settled in many of the places they had raided, becoming residents in new places and changing in the process, and the age of the Viking raider and trader is over.	

Look across the labels you placed next to each event. What sorts of patterns do you see? Were the Vikings successful? Were they settlers or raiders, or both? What general ideas can you form about the Vikings from this timeline? Write some of these ideas below: