

In this unit, students will be introduced to the men, women, and children of the Viking Age.

What's the story?

Students will learn about the **culture, region, and everyday life** of the **Norse people**.

What will my student learn?

Students will learn about the **Viking explorers** who traveled across the ocean to settle in places such as **Greenland, Iceland, and Newfoundland**. They will read about Norse **mythology** and will explore stories about the genealogy of gods, goddesses, dwarfs, and giants.

This unit provides many opportunities for **daily writing**. Students will focus on **reading responses, analyzing characters, and gathering and categorizing important information**. They will collaborate and share ideas with their classmates in preparation to **write a formal piece** showcasing character descriptions.

Conversation starters

Ask your student questions about the unit to promote discussion and continued learning:

1. What do you know or have you learned about Vikings?
2. Can you describe what a myth is?
Follow up: Where did the word *Norse* come from? Why are the stories you are reading called Norse myths?
3. Which of the Norse characters stands out to you the most?
Follow up: Why? How would you describe them?
4. What has been your favorite chapter in this unit so far?
Follow up: Who are the main characters in it? Where do the events in that myth take place? (setting) What happens in the story? (plot)
5. Who are the two most memorable characters in your reading so far?
Follow up: How are they similar? How are they different? Which one can you relate to the most?
6. What does the word *disguise* mean?
Follow up: How was it used in your reading? What is a synonym for that word? Can you use it in a sentence that applies to you?