Parent Guide

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We're excited to share this activity with you. If you are interested in finding more engaging, fun and interesting activities for you and your children, then check out these links to different areas of the Twinkl Parents website.

games

crafts

puzzles

experiments

word searches

What is this resource and how do I use it?

Your child can read all about Orik the Viking and his adventures before checking their understanding by answering the ten accompanying questions. These questions have been written with a variety of reading comprehension skills in mind, including vocabulary, inference and prediction.

What skills does this practise?

- Reading Comprehension
- Fiction
- Vikings

Further Activity Ideas and Suggestions

Your child will love completing this Vikings-Themed Activity Booklet, drawing their own Viking or building their own longboat craft. For more reading comprehension activities, this Year 5 Reading Comprehension Pack 1 contains five more activities based on different text types.

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Year 5 Reading Comprehension

Orik the Viking

The longboats groaned and creaked under the weight of the Viking raiders' broad bodies as they rushed overboard. Splashing through the shallows, they raised their weapons high and roared like wild animals. Orik was last to leave. He always was. Today's hold-up? The buckle on his left boot had come undone. Oh well. He watched the last of the raiders leap into the water ahead of him, then leaned on the side of the rocking boat.

Orik was in no rush to fix the buckle. His crewmates – his family and friends – were more than capable of taking care of a simple raid without him. Pillaging and plundering were all they talked about these days. Orik wanted to talk to them about the falcon he'd spotted hunting the other day when they were off looting or about how much he missed his horse Sigurd, but it was like talking to a brick wall.

By the time Orik reached the shore and the jumble of shacks built up around the tall, stone church, the action was over. He disguised his smile with a look of concern as one of his crewmates kicked a rock near him and grunted, "No one's home. Let's see what they've got for us anyway."

Orik pulled a sympathetic face at the burly Viking and stepped into the nearest alleyway. The village was awfully quiet. Other than the sounds of the Vikings stomping around in their soggy leather boots, breaking through doors and scrabbling through chests, all Orik could hear was the gentle lapping of the waves against their boats and the calling of seabirds on the beach.

Wait. There was something else.

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Orik the Viking

Orik froze, concentrating hard, as if that would improve his hearing. There was another sound: a soft mewing followed by a scratching noise. Orik followed the sound, walking on his tiptoes, away from the crew and further down the alley between two wooden houses. The mewing sound led him all the way up to the graveyard, where a tangle of weeds greeted him at the gate. This village had been long abandoned. Not that Orik minded; he was getting quite tired of having to act fearsome and brave to scare people off.

Suddenly, Orik felt a sharp pain on the back of his leg. He drew in a breath, spun around. The pain moved in a flash, further up his leg – one, two, three, four tiny stabs – up his back, onto his shoulders. He grabbed thoughtlessly at the furry beast that clung to his woollen cloak and managed to pull it off him.

Two wide, circular eyes stared back at him. The smallest pink nose Orik had ever seen. Ears as pointy and triangular as a fox's. Four razor-sharp sets of claws. This tiny monster was surely the source of the mysterious sound Orik had heard. It opened its mouth wide, revealing a minute set of teeth and a rough, salmon-coloured tongue, then let out another squeak.

Orik's face split into a wide smile as the creature clambered up his arms and snuggled into his warm cloak. It seemed that he had been chosen. Finally, a successful raid!

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Questions

1 How do you think Orik felt about the buckle on his boot being undone?

_____

_____

Pillaging and plundering were all they talked about these days.

2 Which of the following words is a synonym for **pillaging** and **plundering**?

- ☐ attacking
- ☐ destroying
- ☐ stealing
- ☐ frightening

3 Describe the setting of this story.

_____

_____

4 What makes Orik different from the other Vikings?

_____

_____

Orik the Viking

5 Why did Orik **disguise his smile with a look of concern** when the other Viking told him no one was home?

6 How does Orik know that the village has been abandoned for a long time?

7 Find and copy one word in the text that means the same as **pitying**.

Suddenly, Orik felt a sharp pain...

8 In this paragraph, how did the writer show that Orik was feeling panicked?

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Orik the Viking

9 Order the events of the story by writing a number next to each statement. The first one has been done for you.

	Orik fixes the buckle on his boot.
1	The Vikings jump out of their longboats onto the shore.
	Orik hears a strange noise.
	The Vikings raid the empty houses.
	Orik feels a pain in his leg.

10 What do you think will happen next?

_____

_____

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Orik the Viking

Answers

1 How do you think Orik felt about the buckle on his boot being undone?

Orik was pleased because it gave him an excuse to be last to join in the raid.

Pillaging and plundering were all they talked about these days.

2 Which of the following words is a synonym for **pillaging** and **plundering**?

- [ ] attacking
- [ ] destroying
- [x] stealing
- [ ] frightening

3 Describe the setting of this story.

The story is set in an abandoned village near the sea. There are wooden shacks built around a tall, stone church. There are seabirds on the beach.

4 What makes Orik different from the other Vikings?

Orik doesn't care about raiding and stealing; he cares more about animals.

Orik the Viking

5

Why did Orik **disguise his smile with a look of concern** when the other Viking told him no one was home?

Orik disguised his smile because he didn't want the other Viking to know that he was happy that there was no one in the village to attack.

6

How does Orik know that the village has been abandoned for a long time?

Orik knows the village has been abandoned for a long time because there are lots of weeds in the graveyard.

7

Find and copy one word in the text that means the same as **pitying**.

Sympathetic

Suddenly, Orik felt a sharp pain...

8

In this paragraph, how did the writer show that Orik was feeling panicked?

The writer showed that Orik was feeling panicked by using lots of short statements separated by commas, so when you read them out loud it comes out very fast.

Orik the Viking

9 Order the events of the story by writing a number next to each statement. The first one has been done for you.

2	Orik fixes the buckle on his boot.
1	The Vikings jump out of their longboats onto the shore.
4	Orik hears a strange noise.
3	The Vikings raid the empty houses.
5	Orik feels a pain in his leg.

10 What do you think will happen next?

Child's own answer, such as:

- **I think that Orik will take the kitten back onto the longboat with him as a pet.**
- **I think that the Vikings will tell Orik off for playing with a kitten instead of raiding the houses.**

We hope you find the information on our website and resources useful. As far as possible, the contents of this resource are reflective of current professional research. However, please be aware that every child is different and information can quickly become out of date. The information given here is intended for general guidance purposes only and may not apply to your specific situation.

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