

USI:

Viking Scene Investigation

How did Peter Adams find the objects?

Look at the holes in the picture of the field. What do you think these are?

NOW IT'S TIME FOR YOU TO BE AN ARCHAEOLOGY DETECTIVE!

The skeletons in these graves did not survive in the harsh soil conditions at Cumwhitton but we can learn lots of things about these Vikings from the objects they were buried with. Explore the objects in the grave models and cases, and see what you can find out.

CASE 1: THE SCANDINAVIAN WOMAN?

Draw or write down the name of an object made from **wood**, **metal** and **bone**.

wood

metal

bone

The woman was buried with a wooden box that was filled with objects special to her. Draw or write down some of your most precious objects.

This grave is different to all of the rest. Can you work out why?

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Man ☐ Woman ☐ Old ☐ Young ☐

Role in the group:

CASE 2: THE YOUNGER WOMAN?

No skeletons survived in these graves. How do we know there was a woman in this grave?

This woman was buried with lots of objects. She may have used them every day and felt they would be important to have in the afterlife, or they may have been precious to her. Fill in the blanks to complete the objects.

S _ e _ r _

S _ c _ l _

C _ _ b

A _ m _ i _ g

B _ _ k _ _

_ o r _

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Man ☐ Woman ☐ Old ☐ Young ☐

Role in the group:

CASE 3: THE SWORDSMAN?

Why do you think the objects look so different to the drawings and replica (copy) objects on the grave models?

In the case are the real objects found in the grave. Draw a diagram of the objects in the glass case and label them with their names.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Man ☐ Woman ☐

Old ☐ Young ☐

Role in the group:

CASE 4: THE WARRIOR?

Why did only the metal part of his shield survive?

There are lots of weapons in this grave.
Match the weapon to what it was used for.

Sword	Defense
Shield	Fighting
Knife	Hunting
Axe	Daily tasks
Spear	Fighting

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Man ☐ Woman ☐ Old ☐ Young ☐

Role in the group:

CASE 5: THE HOST?

What do the drinking horn and the cauldron chain tell us about this man?

The sword in this grave would have had a decorated handle. Design your own pattern here. Have a look at the examples for ideas.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Man ☐ Woman ☐ Old ☐ Young ☐

Role in the group:

CASE 6: THE DAMAGED GRAVE

This grave was damaged by ploughing and many of the objects were lost or destroyed. **Draw or write down some ideas for objects that may have been in the grave.** Think about whether the person buried was a man or a woman, what their job might have been and what kind of items were found in the other graves.

Why do you think all 6 people were buried in the same area? How might they have been related?



Now head to
THE ARCHAEOLOGY
LAB to try out
some investigation
activities,
or try on some
VIKING COSTUME!