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| **HA Resource Hub Submission Form** | | | |
| **Resource Title:** Place Name Evidence | | | **Age Range:** Upper KS2 |
| **Author name and email contact:**  alunmorgan1066@gmail.com | **Resource Details: (e.g. how many documents does it consist of? In which order?)**  1 document outlining the activity and resources needed | | |
| **Necessary prior learning to complete this:**  This could be done at the start of a topic on the Romans, Saxons or Vikings or as a plenary activity to explore how do we know that these people settled in Britain? | | **What does it lead to next?**  The information document suggests further activities including looking at your own locality for similar evidence. | |
| **Explanation: How should this resource be used?**  The information document sets out the activity and the resource requirement of a blank map of Britain and an atlas. The three boxes can be printed off separately and done one at a time. The important part is the examination of the patterns you get by using three different colours to plot the different settlements. There has been a clear pattern linking settlements to geographically closer parts of Europe (Viking settlements in the north, north-east and on the coast0, Saxon settlements in the south, west and along rivers and the earlier Roman settlements over most of England but fewer in Wales and Scotland. | | | |

**Place Name Evidence**

This activity is useful in introducing an over view of the invasions or settlements of the Romans, Saxons and Vikings through a study of place names. It involves use of atlases and should be an opportunity to reinforce geographical skills associated with maps.

**Resources**

A large blank outline map of Britain;

Atlases containing reasonably detailed maps of Britain with good coverage of place names;

Three information cards – one each for the Romans, Saxons and Vikings

**Activity**

Pupils need to work in small groups each with an atlas to identify and plot on to the blank map places that have names that have Roman, Saxon or Viking origins. Allow the groups complete freedom to do the activity as the pattern of settlement should be consistent. A maximum of ten places should be allowed as this should be sufficient to establish patterns.

The groups do not need to write the names of the settlement on the map but need to decide on a different indication for each of the Roman, Saxon and Viking place names so that patterns can be detected.

Once the groups have completed the task they then need to look at the patterns and try to describe what they see on the map. They should be encouraged to use geographical terms such as north, south, east and west or any other accurate geographical terms in relation to the map. The usual pattern is that Roman place names occur throughout most of England but get rarer the further north and west you go towards Scotland and Wales. Most Saxon place names occur in the south and middle of England and often when they are inland they are close to a river. Viking place names tend to be in the north of England and again either along rivers or by the coast.

This general pattern can be discussed and any anomalies looked at prior to a discussion aimed at exploring what this distribution tells us about the three groups. Ideas to develop could include –

What do the patterns tell us about where the peoples settled and built towns?

What can we work out about why people settled where they did?

How do the patterns relate to where the people came from?

What do place names in Shropshire tell us about settlement?

**Roman Place Names**

…chester

…cester

…caster

**Saxon Place Names**

…borough, burgh (fort) dene (valley)

feld, field (field) folk (people)

ford (shallow river crossing) ham (farm)

..ing (the people of) ..wick (farmstead)

…ley, ..lea, leigh (clearing in a forest)

…worth (land with a hedge round it)

**Viking Place Names**

..bar (gate) ..beck (small stream)

…by (farmhouse) ..dale (valley)

..force (waterfall) ..kirk (church)

..thorpe (small village) ..gate (road)

..thwaite (clearing in a forest) ..toft (homestead)