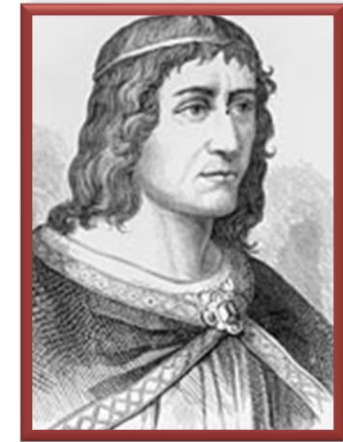


Alfred the Great



Key Vocabulary

reign	To have control over an area or group of people
defeat	To win in a battle
defeated	To lose in a battle
conquer	To take control of an area
kingdoms	A place ruled by a king

- **Occupation:** King of Wessex
- **Born:** 849 in Wantage, England
- **Died:** 899 in Winchester, England
- **Reign:** 871 - 899

There were many famous Anglo-Saxon kings, but the most famous of all was Alfred, one of the only kings in British history to be called 'Great'.

He fought the Vikings and then made peace so that English and Vikings settled down to live together. He encouraged people to learn and he tried to govern well and fairly.

Burning of the Cakes Legend

While escaping the Vikings, Alfred took refuge in the home of an old peasant woman who did not know he was the king. The peasant woman was baking cakes when she had to go outside to tend to the animals. She asked Alfred to watch over the cakes. Alfred's mind was so occupied with the war that he forgot to watch the cakes and they burned. When the peasant woman returned she scolded him for not properly watching the cakes.

Timeline of Alfred's Life

849	868	870	871	877	879	886	887	899
Alfred was born in Wantage, 5 th in line to the throne	Alfred marries Ealhswith	Alfred and his brother fight nine battles against the Vikings	Alfred becomes king at 22 and defeats the Vikings at the battle of Ashdown	Alfred hides out in the Marshes of Athelney in Somerset	Alfred wins a battle against the Vikings at Edington	Alfred captures London and starts renovating the city	Alfred begins translating Latin texts into English	Alfred died and was buried in the city of Winchester