

Anglo-Saxons and Scots

The Invaders



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Goodbye Romans



The Romans had left Britain to defend Rome and so Britain had to look after itself from people trying to invade!



The Scots

A group of people called the Scots came from Ireland. Why is it strange that this group of people are called the Scots?

Historians believe that these Irish Scots invaded and claimed land in Scotland in the 4th and 5th centuries.

The Scots divided the land in Scotland into 4 separate kingdoms which were named Dal Riata, Pictland, Strathclyde and Bernicia.

The Scots were a constant threat to the Britons and it was even harder to fight them off without support from the Romans. They were described as 'foul' and with 'a lust for blood' by a historian from the time, named Gildas. They didn't just want Scotland, they wanted the rest of Britain.



Vortigern

The British King Vortigern was left in charge after the Roman armies left but he faced great difficulty organising troops to hold back the Scots who were very powerful and superb fighters. He worried they would take over in Britain.

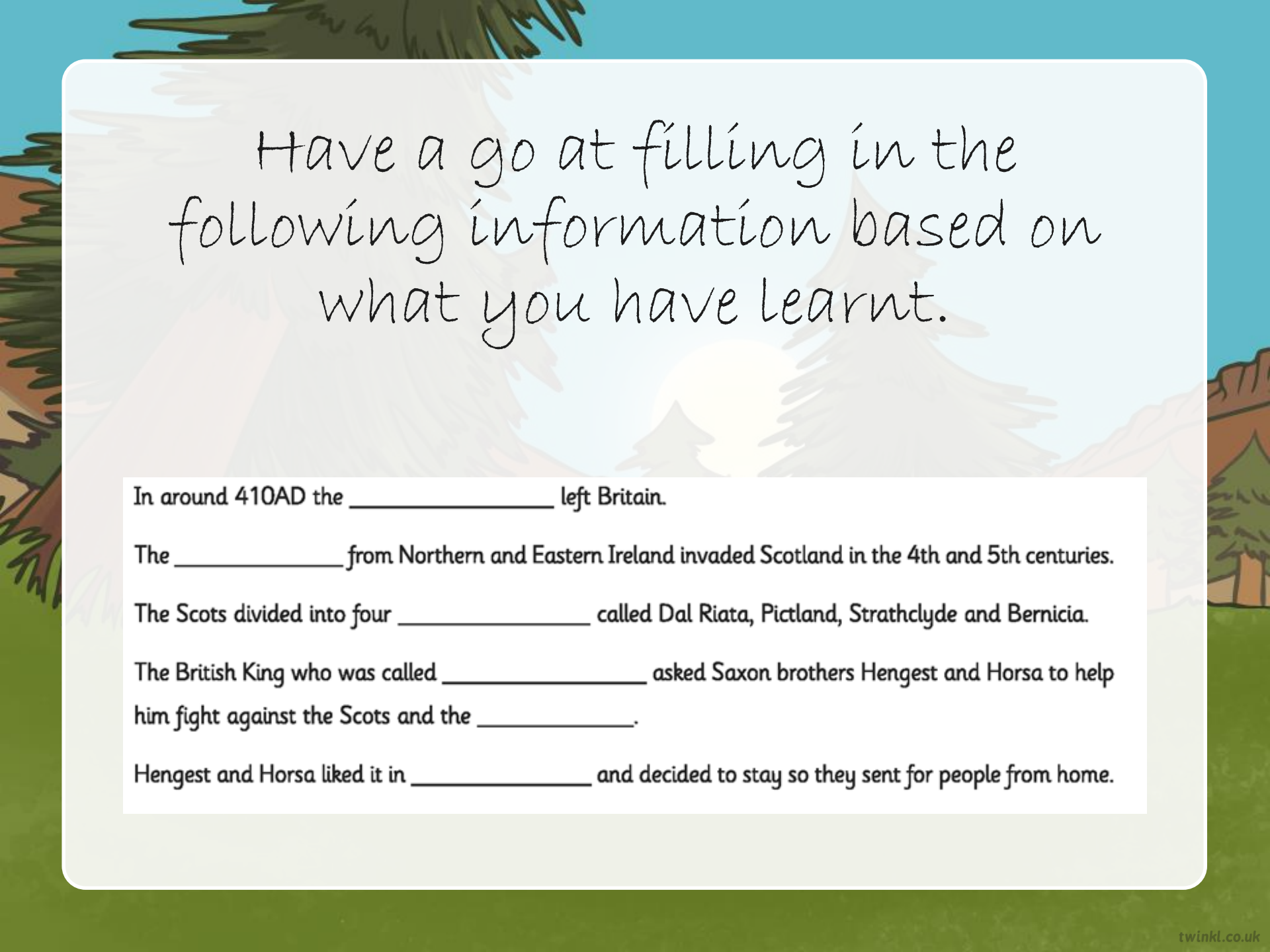
In a bid to retain control and keep the Scots at bay, it is believed that Vortigern asked two brothers called Hengest and Horsa from Jutland (in modern day Denmark) to come and fight for him and keep the Scots out.



Hengest and Horsa

Hengest and Horsa were glad to oblige and the Scots were successfully held back. However the men liked what they found in Britain and decided that they wanted to stay and take land for themselves as it was rich and plentiful and the Britons could be easily defeated.





Have a go at filling in the following information based on what you have learnt.

In around 410AD the _____ left Britain.

The _____ from Northern and Eastern Ireland invaded Scotland in the 4th and 5th centuries.

The Scots divided into four _____ called Dal Riata, Pictland, Strathclyde and Bernicia.

The British King who was called _____ asked Saxon brothers Hengest and Horsa to help him fight against the Scots and the _____.

Hengest and Horsa liked it in _____ and decided to stay so they sent for people from home.