Were the Vikings always victorious and vicious?

Subject Specific Vocabulary

source	Something that tells us about history. Any sort of artefact from the period in question can qualify as a source.
raids	A sudden armed attack with the aim of causing damage rather than occupying any of the enemy's land.
vicious	To be intentionally harmful or nasty. Viking warriors were known to be vicious.
longhouse	A large hall-like building where many Viking families would live together.
berserkers	Warriors that went to war wearing wolf or bear skins. They were out of control and charged fearlessly. The word 'berserk' came from it.
longship	The narrow boat used by Vikings to raid along coasts.
Odin	One of the most famous Viking Gods known for wisdom.
Scandinavia	The name given to a collection of countries: Denmark, Norway and Sweden.
Danelaw	The name given to lands in Britain occupied by the Vikings.
misconception	This means mis-understanding. In Viking terms there were many misunderstandings about the Vikings.
Jorvik	The Viking name for the city of York. York now has a famous Viking museum called Jorvik.

Sticky Knowledge about the Vikings

- ❑ Not all Vikings were warriors. Many came in peace and became farmers.
- ❑ The lands that the Vikings occupied were known as Danelaw.
- ❑ No Vikings wore horns in their helmets.
- ❑ Vikings spoke Norse, which had an alphabet made up of runes.
- ❑ Longships were designed to sail in both deep and shallow water so that they could get close to the shore and sail in rivers to get inland.
- ❑ Vikings were pagans and often raided monasteries, looting gold.
- ❑ The most important Viking British city was York, or Jorvik as it was known by the Vikings.

Exciting Books

Days of the week

The names for most of the days of the week originate from Vikings.

Monday – linked to the moon by the name Mani – Norse for Moon.

Tuesday named after the Viking God of War – Tyr.

Wednesday – named after Odin and known as Woden's Day.

Thursday – named after Thor, the God of thunder.