

The Anglo Saxons

The Anglo Saxons period is from 410AD to 1066AD - a period of around 600 years.

Look around the crofter's cottage and the garden behind it and see what you can spot. Tick off the items as you find them.



curtains



Houses were very cold in the winter. The curtains around the bed kept the heat in.

quern stone



This is a stone for grinding wheat to make flour. Flour was used to make flat breads, cooked over the fire.

yoke



This device sits on the shoulders and allows a person to carry two full buckets, spreading the weight evenly.

toilet



Anglo Saxons went to the toilet outside in a hole. When the hole was full, they would cover it and dig a new one.

windows



Glass was very expensive, so people would cover windows with skins to keep the cold air out but let the light in.

garden



Anglo Saxons grew herbs and vegetables. Herbs were used for medicine as well as flavouring food.

animal pen



Animals were kept in the house and lived with the people.

ham



Anglos Saxons would use smoking as a way to preserve food and make it last longer.

bowl



People were skilled at making items from what was around. These bowls would have been made from wood found nearby.

cooking pot



Metal cooking pots were treasured items, and were passed down through family groups.

rush hat



Rush hats were woven from rushes found in wetland areas.

drinking horn



Horn was the plastic of the time and was used for many things from drinking vessels to making lanterns.

cruck frame



Cruck houses get their name from the long oak beams, shaped like the letter A.

thatch



People built their houses using local materials. Thatch is the stalks of the wheat plant.

open fire



The open fire burned in the middle of the room and the smoke found its way out through the thatch.