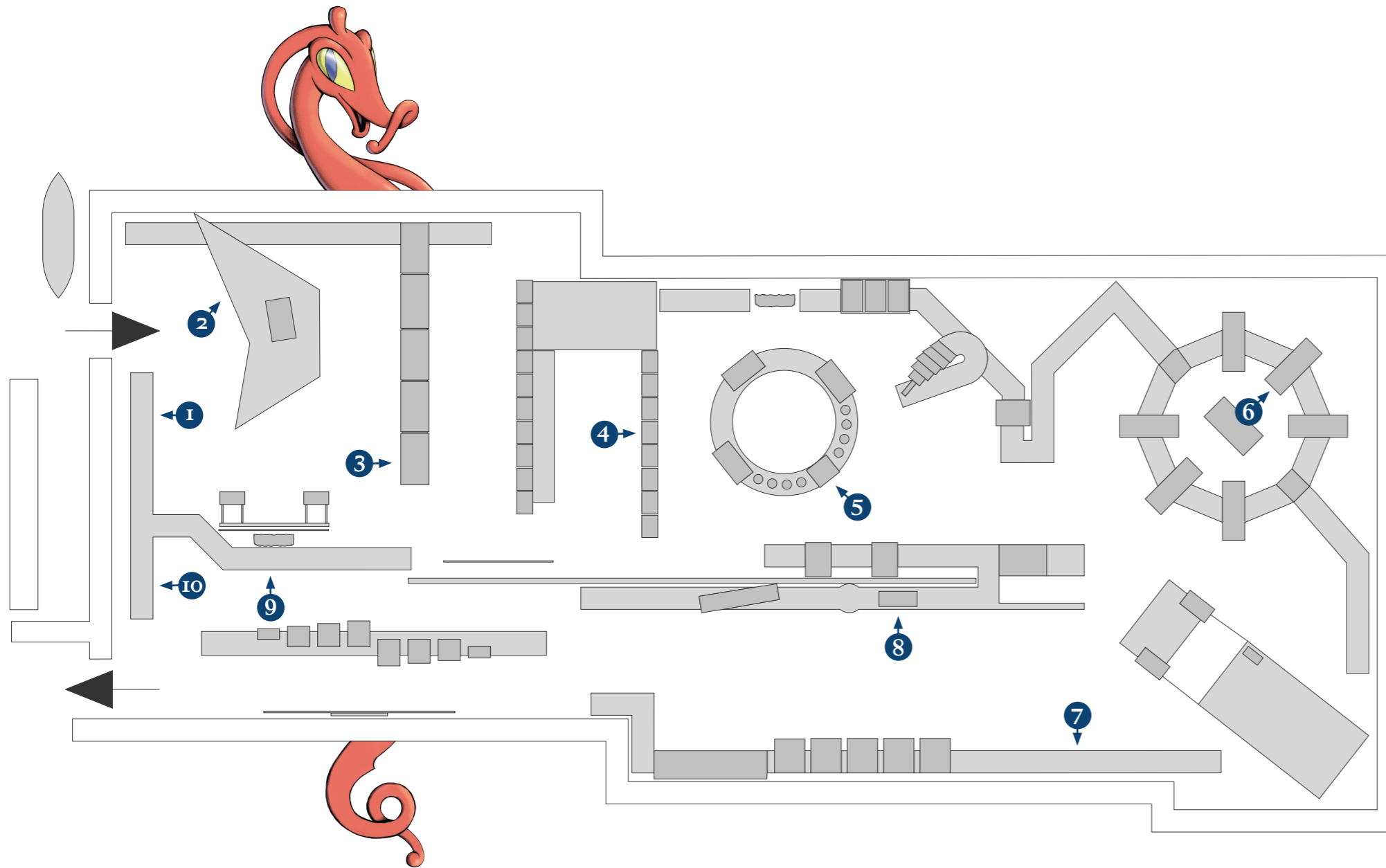


Vikings!



The Trail of the Midgard Snake

Hello there!

I am Jormungand, but the Vikings called me the Midgard Snake. The Vikings believed that I lived on the bottom of the sea and that I wrapped my body around the whole world. They thought it was a good thing, because I kept the world together. At the same time they were scared of running in to me when they were out at sea. Ha, silly humans!

Do not worry, I will take care of you and guide you through the Viking Age. Come with me!

1 Vikings – who were they really?

Circle the words that you think of when you hear the word 'Vikings'.

fierce farmers slaves fighters
women peaceful children families



National Museum of Scotland
www.nms.ac.uk



Produced by The Swedish History Museum
for the travelling exhibition 'Vikings!'



2 Meet the Vikings!

The Vikings liked to travel and traded with people from all over! Look in the showcase *Cultural influences*. Where do you think the statue comes from? Circle your answer.

Is it:

- a. Norway b. India c. Brazil

*India is correct!
Do you own any things that come from that far away?*

3 Viking people

All the objects in the showcase *The girl – the little Lady of the House* belonged to a little girl. We do not know much about how children played in the Viking age, but one of the things in the showcase was probably a toy. Which one?

Put the jumbled letters together and see!

E L B L

4 Viking life

The Vikings liked to keep clean and to make themselves look nice. In the showcase *Combed, shaved and good looking* you can see things they used. What do you think this object was used for?



Circle the right answer!

Was it used for:

- a. putting on your make-up
b. cleaning out your ears
c. cleaning under your finger nails

*For cleaning out your ears!
Ear wax can be troublesome, even for Vikings.*



5 What did the Vikings believe in?

The Vikings believed that the world was made up of many different places and parts. Humans lived in Midgard. Can you find the names of the other places in their world on the touchscreen in the ring?

6 Made by Vikings

The Vikings were good at making practical things, like tools. They were also good at making beautiful things.

This broken mould was used to make an animal of metal. What kind of an animal is it? Dragon? Horse? You decide and finish the drawing!



7 When Vikings died

The Vikings believed in an afterlife. When buried they were given precious and practical things to take with them. Can you see what this person was given? Circle the things you find in the showcase *Cremation burials of ordinary people*.

- bread finger rings knife
comb glass beads

But where are the bones of the dead person?

The burnt bones are in the pot!

8 Vikings away on business

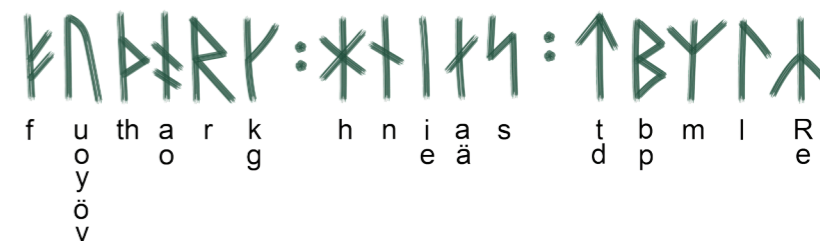
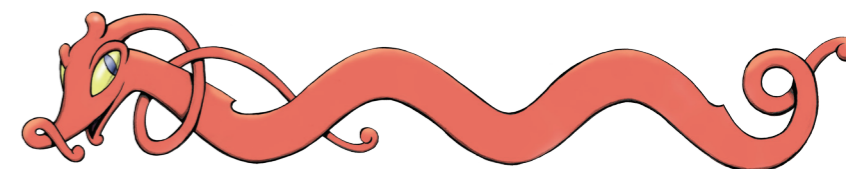
The Vikings travelled and met people from other parts of the world to do business. In the showcase *New designs and influences* you can see coins that have been made into pendants for necklaces. There is written text on the coins. Can you tell what kind of letters are used?

- a. Viking letters called runes
b. Arabic writing
c. Roman letters

The coins have Arabic writing on them! The Vikings traded a lot with people from countries where Arabic was spoken.

9 Over the sea

The Vikings were skilled ship builders and sailors. We can read about some of the trips they made on rune stones such as these. Sometimes I guard the messages with my body. Write your own message, or your name, in runes inside my body:




10 Vikings – who were they really?

Think about the words you chose to describe the Vikings at the start of your visit. Do you have any new words now?

Vikings were

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 I hope that you've enjoyed finding out about the Viking Age with me. What did you like best? Come back soon!