

Book Brigade

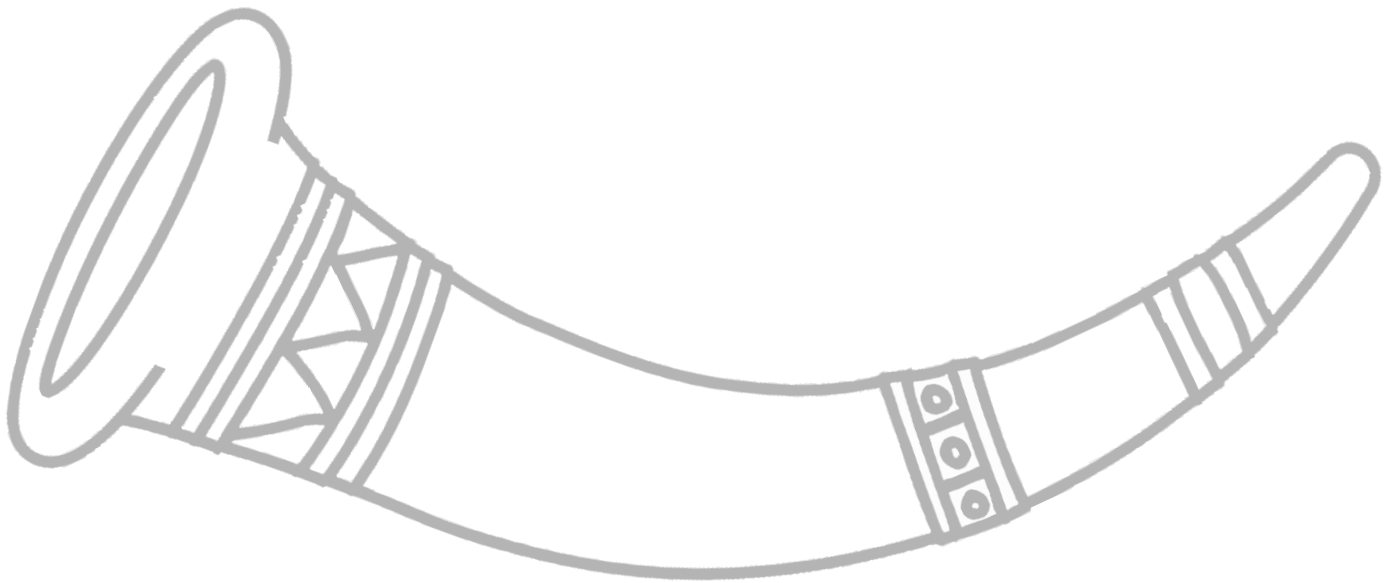
The Legend of Viking Thunder

Starter activity

Throughout the book, we hear descriptions of the Gjallarhorn:

- It is blown by Heimdall to signal the beginning of Ragnarök.
- It's so powerful it can be heard throughout heaven, earth and the underworld.
- It's often depicted as an ox-horn or one fashioned to look like one from metal.

If you were to design the Gjallarhorn, what would it look like? Would it look frightening? Beautiful? Would it be covered in runes? Patterns? Drawings?



We learn from the book that Old Norse runes aren't just letters – they each have a special meaning and can symbolise different things. You can add some of the Elder Futhark runes below to your design.

							
f	u	þ	a	r	k	g	w
fehu	ūruz	þurisaz	ansuz	raipō	kaunaz	gebō	wunjō
wealth	aurochs	giant	god	riding	ulcer	gift	joy
							
h	n	i	j	ī	p	z	s
hagalaz	naupiz	isa	jera	eihwaz	perþ	algiz	sōwulō
hail	need/hardship	ice	year/harvest	yew tree	luck	sedge (?)	sun
							
t	b	e	m	l	ng	d	o
teiwaz	berkana	ehwaz	mannaz	laguz	inguz	ḍagaz	ōþila
the god Tyr	birch twig	horse	man	water	the god Ing	day	inherited land

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Starter activity (cont'd)

Now that you've designed your very own Gjallarhorn, why not use more of that creativity to think about how you would describe it if you were to write your own book? Here's an example below to get your thinking caps working!

It was a thing of beauty – ornately carved with its middle section gilded in a gold so brilliant it was almost painful to look at. The carvings were meticulous, detailed runes, surrounded by intricately rendered swirls that evoked images of a ship in a storm. Although it resembled a polished ox-horn used for drinking in Viking times, it was far too large to have originated from a bull... or at least any bull that now roamed the earth.

Use this space to write down some adjectives (description words) that you could use to describe your Gjallarhorn:

My description of my Gjallarhorn:

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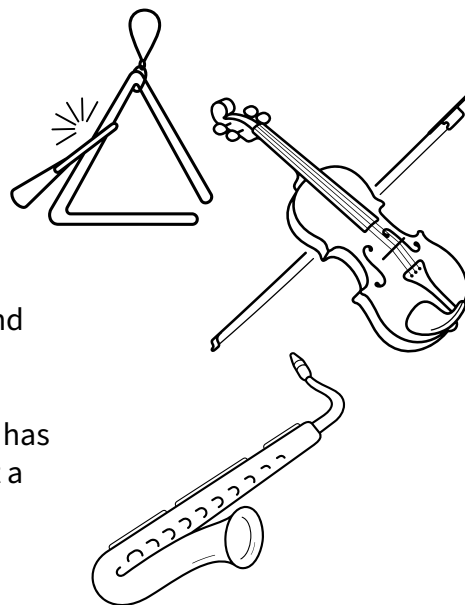
The Legend of Viking Thunder

Ending activity

Time Keys, in the book, are powerful time travellers that can detect and unlock doors in time using their musical abilities.

Sim's uncle Emmett has a violin, Jeopardy plays the trumpet and Sim has the uncanny ability of hearing time keys and unlocking them with just a tuning fork — though it does make him feel very sick.

If you were a time key, how would your power manifest itself?



A description of my instrument:

Here's a drawing of what it looks like:

How does a time door make me feel?

The music/song that unlocks the doors:

Where would I go in history?

What would I do when I got there?