**Towns and Villages**

Anglo-Saxons name for towns was burh. The word 'burh' still appears in place names in Britain - Peterborough and Scarborough are two examples.

Names that tell the tribes

The first Anglo Saxon Villages were often named after the Chieftain (Leader of the village). This made it clear which tribe the village belonged to. These places often have the letters 'ing' of 'folk' somewhere in their name, often at the end. The first part of the name was most likely to have been the name of the local chieftain.

The people who lived in the 'village' of Hastings were 'Haesta's people'.  
Haesta was the chieftain.

The people who lived in the 'village' of Reading were 'Redda's people'.  
Redda was the chieftain .

Names that tell the Landscape

Later Anglo Saxon villages were named after a feature in their surroundings rather than the name of the chieftain.

Oxford got its name because it was a place where oxen were driven across a ford in a river.

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| Anglo Saxon Word | Meaning | Examples of place name |
| barrow | wood | Barrow-in-Furness |
| bury | fortified place | Banbury Shaftesbury |
| ford | shallow river crossing | Stamford |
| ham | village | Birmingham |
| hamm (a different way of spelling of ham) | enclosure within the bend of a river' | Southhampton Buckingham |
| hurst | wooden hill | Staplehurst Chislehurst |
| leigh / lee / ley | forest clearing | Henley |
| mer /mar /mere | lake | Cromer |
| ney | island |  |
| port | market town | Bridport |
| stead /sted | place | Stanstead |
| stow / stowe | meeting place holy place | Stowmarket Padstow |
| ton / tun | enclosed village / farmstead / manor | Tonbridge Alton Luton |
| wick / wich | Produce of a farm | Greenwich (fields) Woolwich (sheep) Butterwick (dairy) Chiswick (cheese) Norwich (?) |

Places named after Gods

Other Anglo Saxon villages were named after pagan gods or goddesses.

Place names begining with Wednes, Wodnes and Woodnes come from the name of *Woden,*a war god. Examples include Wednesfield in the West Midlands and Wodnesfeld in Essex. Both mean Woden's field.

Tuesley in Surrey was named after the god Tiw.

Thursley in Sussex is named after the god Thunor and means Thunor's grove

**Counties**

The Saxons settled in areas of Essex (East Saxons), Sussex (South Saxons), Middlesex (Middle Saxons), and Wessex (West Saxons).

The Jutes settled mainly in Kent. They did not call themselves 'the Jutes', they referred to them selves as 'the Kentings', that is the men living in Kent.

The Angles settled in East Anglia