A Viking Reading List
for those who want to learn more about the Viking Age

General introductions for adults and older children:
• Roesdahl, Else: The Vikings. Penguin, 1998. Probably the most approachable volume on the Viking era, with a complete summary of Norse history, culture, daily life, and religion, but with few illustrations.

Writings by the Vikings (and their contemporaries and descendants):

Norse Mythology
• Crossley-Holland, Kevin: The Norse Myths. Pantheon, 1980. The author retells (and embellishes) the Norse stories in modern English prose. This is a good place for a casual reader to get an overview of the Norse mythology.
• Larrington, Carolyne, tr.: Poetic Edda. Oxford University Press, 1996. A good English translation of the poems that form the basis of the Norse myths.

For younger readers:
• Pearson, Anne: The Vikings. Viking, 1994. (See Through History Series)

Most of the books on this list are readily available. Some may be more difficult to find. Ask your librarian for help.

Web sites with more information:
• Viking Heritage: http://viking.hgo.se/
• BBC Vikings: http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/ancient/vikings/
• Smithsonian Vikings: http://www.mnh.si.edu/vikings/start.html
• Viking Network: http://viking.no/
• Hurstwic: http://www.hurstwic.com/history/text/history.htm

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