

Green Lane Primary School – History

Topic: Stone Age to Iron Age

Year 3



What should I already know?

- Life existed before your grandparents were born.
- Millions of years ago, dinosaurs lived.
- Evidence of this was found by Mary Anning, who discovered fossils.
- What climate means and an example of it.

What was the Stone Age?

- The Stone Age began when the first tools were made from stone and ended with the introduction of metal tools.
- At the end of the Ice Age, the sea levels rose and so Britain turned into an **island**.
- Humans survived by using sharp stone tools to kill animals, such as mammoths.
- Dead animals proved to be useful **resources** because they provided food to eat and skins to keep warm. Their bones were another useful material for making tools.
- Evidence of the Stone Age includes **discoveries** of: cave paintings, early tools, fire hearths, settlements and Cheddar Man.
- At the same time in another part of the world was the Egyptian **civilisation** - the Egyptians were building the pyramids around the same time as the **Neolithic era**.

Key Events in the Stone Age

65 Million Years Ago	Dinosaurs existed
c. 800,000 BC – 10,500 BC. Palaeolithic Stone Age. (Old or Ancient Stone Age)	Neanderthals and modern humans used ancient tools and simple ways of living to survive the Ice Age. 
c. 10, 500 BC - 4, 000 BC Mesolithic Stone Age. (Middle Stone Age)	Middle Stone Age: from the end of the Ice Age, as the climate got warmer, to the start of farming . Humans would demonstrate a variety of ways to gather food including hunting and fishing.
c. 4, 000 BC - 2, 500 BC Neolithic Stone Age (New Stone Age) 	New Stone Age: from the start of farming including land clearance and the keeping of animals. This lasted till the first use of metal.

Bronze Age to Iron Age

The Bronze Age

- The Bronze Age started at different times around the world.
- Tools were made from **bronze** - copper and tin were heated up and poured into casts.
- Evidence of the Bronze Age:
 - Amesbury Archer - the **remains** of an early Bronze Age man who was buried with over 100 artefacts
 - Discovery of round **barrows** and stone circles
- The Bronze Age started when the Beaker People arrived from Europe.
- They brought with them new ways of making metal.
- Bronze Age people lived in **settlements**, which was a group of round houses.
- Houses were made from wattle (sticks) and daub (mud) or dry stone.
- **Settlements traded resources** like copper and tin.
- Burials were important to Bronze Age people - they placed **stone circles** where burials took place.

The Iron Age

- Tools were made from iron. Iron was heated up then the hot iron was hammered into shape.
- **Settlements** became larger because tribes were better able to farm and defend themselves.
- At the end of the Iron Age, coins were made and used as currency.
- There were lots of battles between tribes who fought each other for more land and power.



Vocabulary

ancient	belonging to the distant past, especially to the period in history before the end of the Roman Empire.
Archaeologist	someone who studies the past by exploring old remains.
Artefact	an object from the past that shows evidence of what life was like.
Barrow	a large structure made of earth that people used to build over graves.
Believe	Bronze Age people held religious gatherings, usually around burials. Iron Age people believed in powerful spirits.
Bronze	copper and tin are melted together to make a metal called Bronze.
Century	a period of 100 years.
Circa	Latin meaning 'around' .c. 800 BC means around 800 BC.
Civilisation	a human society with its own social organization and culture.
Climate	the general weather conditions that are typical of a place.
Discovery	if someone makes a discovery, they are the first person to find or become aware of a place, substance or scientific fact that no one knew about before.
Druids	powerful religious people.
Era	a period of time in history. An era often begins or ends with an important event.
Extinct	no longer has any living members, either in the world or a particular place.
Farming	when an area of land is used to produce crops or to breed animals and livestock.
Flint	a piece of stone used in fire-starting and as a tool.
Gather	collect things together.
Hearths	the floor of a fireplace, or the stone or brick area in front of it.
Hillfort	settlements built on hills to provide more protection.
Invasion	to try and take over a place by force.
Island	a piece of land that is completely surrounded by water.
Land clearance	the removal of trees, or other things that are not wanted from an area to clear the land.
Loom	an apparatus that makes fabric using threads.
Mesolithic	Middle Stone Age.
Migration	movement from one place to another in order to settle there.
Neanderthal	an early species of human being, now extinct.
Nomad	a person or a group of people with no fixed home who travelled around to find shelter.
Paleolithic	Old or 'ancient' stone age.
Rampart	a defensive wall built for protection.
Remains	traces of the past.
Resources	something used to help when needed.
Sacrifice	offerings to spirits such as weapons, animals and humans.
Settler/ settlement	people who migrate to a new place. When people start a community that is a settlement.
Stone circle	burials took place in stone circles.
Trade	the activity of buying, selling or exchanging goods or services.
Variety	things which are different from each other.

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Year 3 and 4

Significant Places and Objects



Skara Brae – Orkney Islands, Scotland



Cave Art (Lascaux, France)



Stonehenge – Amesbury, England



Bronze Age Hut

Historical Skills and Enquiry

- Describe what life was like for all groups of people during all three stages of the Stone Age, the Bronze Age and the Iron Age.
- Use word mats to understand the meaning behind the words, Paleolithic, Mesolithic and Neolithic.
- Ask questions and find out the answers about the Stone Age, Bronze Age and Iron Age.
- Explain how Britain changed during the Stone Age, Bronze Age and Iron Age using a timeline to help.
- Explain how we know about the Bronze Age and the Iron Age.
- Study Stone Age, Bronze Age and Iron Age artefacts/ tools and explain what their uses were.
- Place events on a timeline using dates.
- Compare the Stone Age, Bronze Age and Iron Age using Venn Diagrams.
- Explain what religious beliefs were like during this time.
- Look at pictures of Skara Brae and describe the features of the settlement.
- Present what you know about the Stone Age using a variety of skills (e.g. Geography, English, Maths and Computing).
- Explain how the Roman invasion brought an end to the Iron Age.

Timeline

c. 800,000 BC - 10,500 BC:

Palaeolithic Stone Age

c. 4,000 BC - 2,500 BC

Neolithic Stone Age

c. 1,000 BC: The cart with wheels is invented.

c. 80 BC: Coins are thought to be first used.

c. AD 43: The Romans conquer Britain. This marks the end of the Iron Age.

c. 10,500 BC - 4,000 BC

Mesolithic Stone Age

c. 2,300 BC: Bronze Age begins when the beaker people begin to arrive in Britain.

c. 800 BC: The Iron Age Begins.

c. 55-54 BC: Julius Caesar first invades Britain.

Question 1: Using the numbers 1-3, put these in the order in which they happened.	Start of unit:	End of unit:
Mesolithic		
Paleolithic		
Neolithic		

Question 2: Stone Age humans lived at the same time as dinosaurs. True or False?	Start of unit:	End of unit:
True		
False		

Question 3: Which of these is an example of a Stone Age settlement?	Start of unit:	End of unit:
Sudbury		
Skara Brae		
London		
Great Cornard		

Question 4: Give an example of evidence that tells us about the Stone Age.	Start of unit:	End of unit:

Question 5: Using the numbers 1-3, put these in the order in which they happened.	Start of unit:	End of unit:
early humans use tools such as flints to help them survive		
the start of farming		
the start of hunting and gathering		

Question 6: Why were animals important to Stone Age humans? Tick all that are true.	Start of unit:	End of unit:
they provided them with food		
they used their bones to make tools		
they used their skins to keep warm		
they loved being around all kinds of animals		

Question 7: Place these in order of chronology using the numbers 1-4.	Start of unit:	End of unit:
The cart with wheels is invented		
The Romans invade Britain		
Beaker People arrive		
Iron Age begins		

Question 8: What is bronze made out of? Tick two.	Start of unit:	End of unit:
gold		
silver		
copper		
tin		

Question 9: Which year did the Bronze Age start?	Start of unit:	End of unit:
2, 500 BC		
0		
AD 43		
AD 2, 500		

Question 10: How did Iron Age people protect their settlements? Tick two	Start of unit:	End of unit:
trade		
migration		
hillforts		
ramparts		

Question 10: A settlement is...	Start of unit:	End of unit:
where people were buried		
where people hunted		
where people migrated to, to live in a community		
where people migrated from		

Question 11: The Iron Age ended in...	Start of unit:	End of unit:
800 BC		
43 BC		
AD 43		
AD 800		