

Year 3



Stone Age to Iron Age Knowledge Organiser

Would you rather live in the Stone Age, Bronze Age or Iron Age?

Key Vocabulary	Key Questions and Facts		
<p>Prehistoric: the period of time before writing was invented.</p> <p>Hunter-Gatherer: a member of nomadic people who collect and find food rather than farming.</p> <p>Nomad: people that travel place to place to find fresh pasture for their animals and have no permanent home.</p> <p>Palaeolithic: The early Stone Age, also known as the 'Old Stone Age', starting around 2.5m years ago until around 10,000BC.</p> <p>Mesolithic: The Middle Stone Age, lasting from around 8000BC to around 4000BC.</p> <p>Neolithic: The New Stone Age. Lasted from around 4000BC to around 2000BC. People had fully domesticated some animals.</p> <p>Tribe: A group of people, often related by family, who live together but do not live in towns or cities.</p> <p>Celt: The name for people who lived in ancient Britain and parts of Western Europe.</p> <p>Pelt: A piece of clothing made from animal fur or skin.</p> <p>Neanderthal: A type of early human who was bigger and stronger than we might be today.</p> <p>Homo Sapiens: the primate species to which modern humans belong</p>	<p>When was the Stone Age and which periods did it include?</p> <p>The Stone Age began about 2.6 million years ago, when researchers found the earliest evidence of humans using stone tools and lasted until about 3,300 B.C. when the Bronze Age began. It is typically broken into three distinct periods: the Palaeolithic Period, Mesolithic Period and Neolithic Period.</p>	<p>Which change was the most significant to the way people lived?</p> <p>Language was perhaps the most important innovation of the Palaeolithic era. Scientists can infer the early use of language from the fact that humans travelled across large areas of land, established settlements, created tools, traded, and instituted social hierarchies and cultures.</p> <p>Humans began cultivating plants, breeding animals for food and forming permanent settlements. The advent of agriculture separated Neolithic people from their Palaeolithic ancestors.</p>	<p>Who was the Cheddar man?</p> <p>Cheddar Man was a Mesolithic hunter-gatherer (fully modern human) with dark skin and blue eyes. He was about 166 centimetres tall and died in his twenties. His skeleton was uncovered in 1903 during improvements to drainage for Gough's Cave, a popular tourist attraction.</p>
	<p>How did handheld tools change through this period in history?</p> <p>Humans created increasingly more sophisticated stone tools. These included hand axes, spear points for hunting large game, scrapers which could be used to prepare animal hides and awls for shredding plant fibres and making clothing. Not all Stone Age tools were made of stone.</p> <p>By combining copper and tin, they created a strong alloy called bronze which improved farming equipment and weapons. Iron eventually replaced bronze because iron is easier to find and iron tools could be sharpened.</p>	<p>Would you rather live/eat food in the Stone Age, Bronze Age or Iron Age?</p> <p>Early humans lived in caves or simple huts or tepees and were hunters and gatherers. They used basic stone and bone tools, as well as crude stone axes, for hunting birds and wild animals.</p> <p>During the Bronze Age most people lived in small villages or on farms. They built houses from materials that could be found nearby, such as wood or stone.</p> <p>People throughout much of Celtic Europe lived in hill forts during the Iron Age. Walls and ditches surrounded the forts, and warriors defended hill forts against attacks by rival clans.</p>	<p>Is Skara Brae significant?</p> <p>Skara Brae is a Neolithic village in NE Scotland, in the Orkney Islands: one of Europe's most perfectly preserved Stone Age villages. Skara Brae is significant because its artefacts help us to understand what life was like in Britain during the Stone Age.</p>

Significant Individuals and Places

Bronze: a yellowish-brown alloy of copper with up to one-third tin

Roundhouse: circular dwellings that had thatched roofs and walls made of wooden posts, which were filled in with wattle-and-daub.

Hillfort: A type of settlement that the Celts might have lived in. These offered more protection as they were higher up and you could see if any enemies were about to attack you.

Quern: stones were used for grinding grain into flour.

Smelting: The process of making bronze by extracting the metal from the natural ore.

Druid: an ancient Celtic priest

Borer: small pieces of flint made into small stone tools for piercing holes.

Domesticate: tame (an animal) and keep it as a pet or on a farm or to cultivate (a plant) for food.

Skara Brae: A Neolithic village in NE Scotland, in the Orkney Islands: one of Europe's most perfectly preserved Stone Age villages.

Cheddar Man: the oldest almost complete skeleton of our species, Homo sapiens, ever found in Britain.

Torc: a neck ornament consisting of a band of twisted metal.

Spear: a weapon with a pointed tip, typically of steel, and a long shaft, used for thrusting or throwing.

Weapon: a thing designed or used for inflicting bodily harm or physical damage

Tool: a device or implement, especially one held in the hand, used to carry out a particular function

Hammerstone: a prehistoric hammering implement consisting of a rounded stone.



Skara Brae

Skara Brae is **one of the best-preserved Neolithic settlements anywhere in Western Europe** – which makes it a super-special find for archaeologists. The amazing artefacts discovered at this incredible site give us an insight into what life was like in Britain during that time.



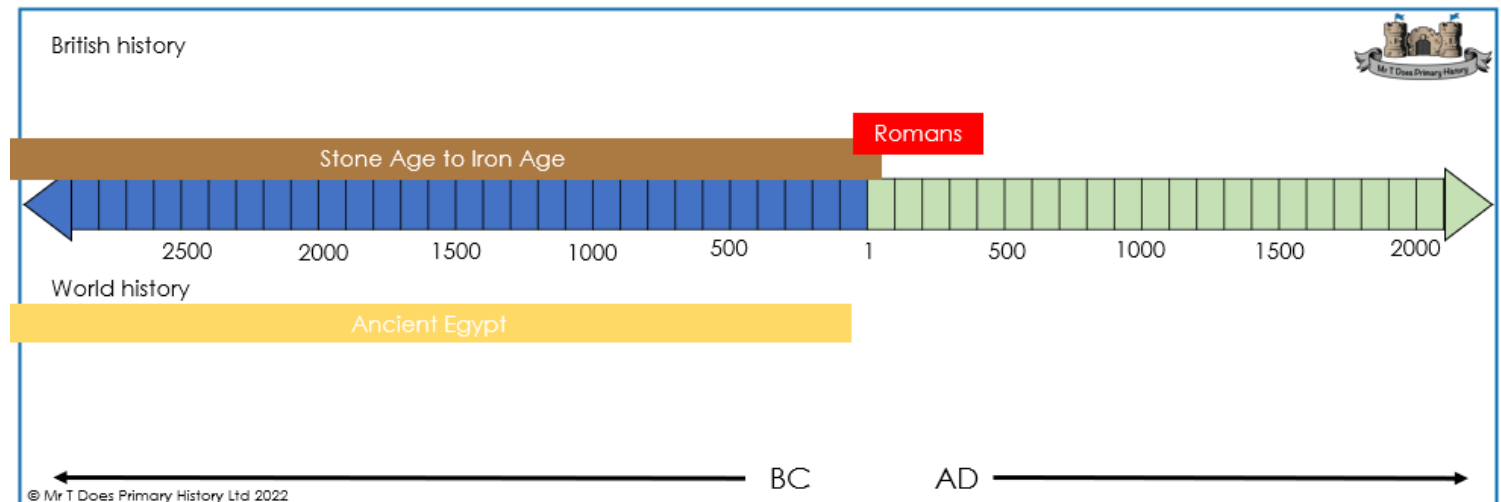
The Cheddar Man

Cheddar Man lived around 10,000 years ago and is **the oldest almost complete skeleton of our species, Homo sapiens, ever found in Britain**. Research into ancient DNA extracted from the skeleton has helped scientists to build a portrait of Cheddar Man and his life in Mesolithic Britain.



Stonehenge

Stonehenge in Wiltshire is a world renowned, magnificent site consisting of standing and lying stones, some transported from South Wales. The construction of Stonehenge took place between 3000 BC and 1600 BC and is considered to be one of the most impressive structures of its time. The purpose of Stonehenge has remained a mystery, despite extensive archaeological investigation



Pre-History

- The period of prehistory in Britain generally refers to the time before written records began.
- It begins when the earliest hunter-gatherers came to Britain from Europe around 450,000 BC and ends with the invasion of the Romans in AD 43. The Stone Age, Bronze Age and Iron Age covers 98% of human history in Britain.
- Some of the major advances in technology were achieved during this period, including the control of fire, agriculture, metalworking, and the wheel.

The Stone Age

- **Palaeolithic Period** people were hunters and they found food by roaming from place to place in different seasons.

Mesolithic Period

- Sea levels rose and Britain became an island (before this time Britain was joined to the mainland of Europe).
- Tools were developed to become smaller and finer.
- The invention of canoes meant that people were better able to hunt for fish as well as animals.

Neolithic Period

- People began to settle into farming villages instead of moving from place to place.
- People started to look after animals and grow their own crops.



The Bronze Age

- People discovered how to get metals out of rocks.
- Bronze replaced stone as the best material for making tools.
- People were able to build better farming equipment and they also began to make bronze weapons and jewellery.
- When people died, they were buried with their most important possessions. Many of these burial objects have now been discovered and they help historians to know more about what life was like during the Bronze Age.



The Iron Age

- Iron replaced bronze as the main material for making tools and weapons.
- People lived in tribes, and they were often at war with each other.
- Iron Age people began to protect themselves by settling in hillforts, which were groups of round houses and farming land protected by stone walls.
- Sometimes people from the Iron Age are called 'Celts'.
- This period of history ended when the Romans invaded Britain in AD 43.



Useful Websites

Britannica Kids – Stone Age information and additional links to other key information.

<https://kids.britannica.com/kids/article/Stone-Age/353814>

Super Brainy Beans – Stone Age for Kids – Super Brainy History. <https://superbrainybeans.com/history/stone-age/>

Twinkl History Homework Help – Facts about Britain, Neanderthal Vs. Homosapien.

<https://www.twinkl.co.uk/teaching-wiki/stone-age>