

Year 4

History - Stone Age to Iron Age

Key Learning

Key Vocabulary

prehistoric	Before written records began.
Stone Age	A period of time when people used stone to make tools.
Bronze Age	A period of time when people made tools from bronze.
Iron Age	A period of time when people made tools from iron.
Palaeolithic	Around 3,000,000 BC.
Mesolithic	Around 10,000 BC.
Neolithic	Around 4500 - 2400 BC.
archaeologist	Someone who finds out about the past by studying artefacts
bronze	A metal alloy made from a mixture of copper and tin.
Celt	A modern term for the people living in Europe during the Iron Age.
Doggerland	The area connecting Britain to Europe
flint	A very hard stone that can produce a spark when struck by another stone.
hunter-gatherer	Someone who hunts animals and gathers wild food to eat.
iron	A metal that is stronger and harder than bronze.
migrate	To move to a different place.
smelt	To melt in order to separate different metals.
tribe	A group of people, often related through family, culture and language, usually with one leader.
excavation	digging up artefacts while recording them scientifically
continuity	Things that have stayed the same in history.

How did life change over the Stone Age?

How have archaeologists help us find out more about pre-history?

What evidence is there of the Stone Age in the North East of England?

The Stone Age is a period of our history that happened thousands of years ago. It is called the Stone Age because it is the era when early humans started using stone for tools and weapons. They also used stones to light fires.

The Stone Age is divided into three periods; the Palaeolithic (old Stone Age), Mesolithic (middle Stone Age) and the Neolithic (new Stone Age).

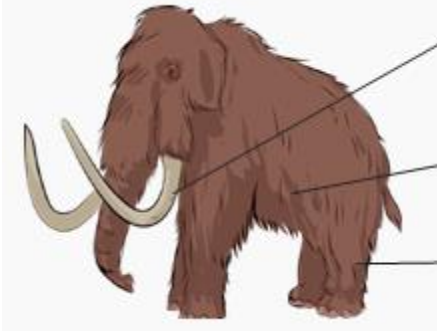
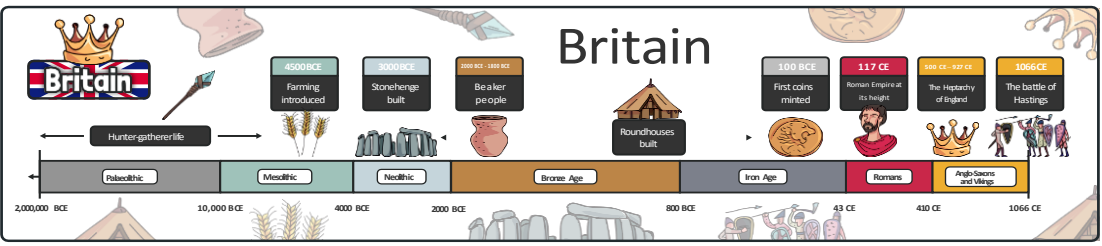
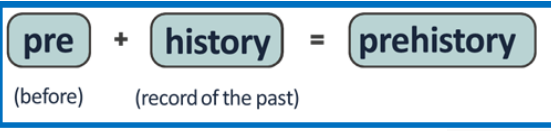
Palaeolithic and Mesolithic people were hunter-gatherers. They moved frequently following the animals they hunted and gathered fruits and berries when they could.

There is no written evidence from the Stone Age era. Instead, archaeologists dig to find clues about how people lived before written records existed. Artefacts such as bones, jewellery and pottery have been found deep in the ground and help archaeologists piece together what life was like in different eras. The deeper in the ground that the archaeologists find artefacts, the older they are.

During the Stone Age, Britain was very different. It was originally connected to the rest of Europe by a piece of land called Doggerland. Doggerland eventually disappeared when the sea level rose over thousands of years. Archaeologists believe that many people lived here during the Stone Age.

During the Neolithic Stone Age, people started to farm. They would plant seeds and when they were fully grown, they would use their stone and bone tools to cut them down so they could turn them into food and eat them. . People also captured smaller animals such as dogs, pigs and sheep. They looked after them so that they would have babies. This meant that they would have bigger groups of animals near their homes that they could milk, skin for hides/fur and kill for meat/bone for food and tools.

People living during the Stone Age were hunters. They would hunt animals to eat such as woolly mammoths, reindeers and woolly rhinoceros. However, they did not just hunt animals to eat them. Animals had many different uses. They would use the animal's woolly coat to keep them warm in the winter and they would use animal horns as tools, weapons or even to help clear snow out of their path! The animals would often migrate around the land, not staying in one place. People during this time built temporary homes so that they could move quickly to follow the animals and continue to hunt. The Stone Age people also ate fish that were caught in rivers and lakes, gathered animals eggs, fruits, nuts and plants.



Ivory, bone and sinew to make tools and weapons

Meat to eat and fat to create paints for artwork

Fur to make clothes