

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

Key Dates

25,000 BC	Northern Europe and most of modern Britain is plunged into a deep Ice Age
12,000 BC	Beginning of the end of the Ice Age. Re-colonization of Britain by homo sapiens.
30,000 BC – 10,000 BC	Paleolithic Period or Old Stone Age
10,000 BC – 8,000 BC	Mesolithic Period or Middle Stone Age
8,000 BC – 3,000 BC	Neolithic Period or New Stone Age
3000 – 2500 BC	The village of Skara Brae in Orkney is estimated to have been occupied during this period. Construction started on Stonehenge .
2500 BC	' Bell Beaker ' culture was introduced in Britain. This culture was named after a particular type of pottery design.
2200 BC	People begin to use bronze
2200 BC	Stonehenge Bluestones rearranged
1850 AD	Skara Brae was discovered after a storm removed the earth from the area.

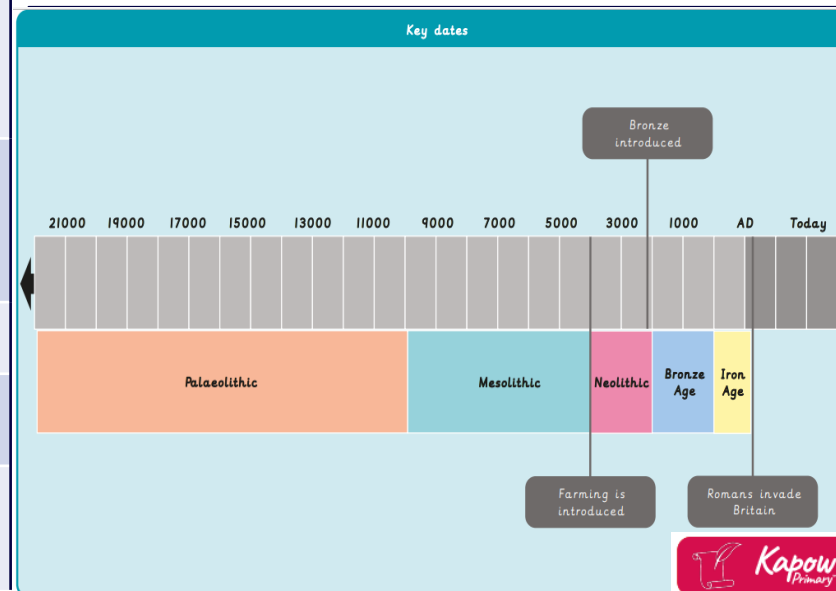
Key Events, Facts and People

The Stone Age is divided into three different periods: Paleolithic Old Stone Age, Mesolithic or Middle Stone Age and Neolithic or New Stone Age.

It is called the Stone Age because the people used tools, weapons and jewellery made of stone.



The Bronze Age marked the first- time humans started to work with metal. Bronze tools and weapons soon replaced earlier stone versions.



Key Vocabulary

Pre-history	A period of time before writing
settlement	A place where people live together in buildings as a community.
Paleolithic	Relating to the early phase of the Stone Age when ancient stones were used. 30,000 BC – 10,000 BC
Mesolithic	Relating to the middle part of the Stone Age, between the Paleolithic and Neolithic. 10,000 BC – 8000 BC.
Neolithic	Relating to the later part of the Stone Age, when ground or polished stone weapons were more powerful. 8000 BC – 3000 BC.
nomad	Someone who does not have a permanent settlement and travels around
hunter gatherers	A person who survives by hunting wild animals and gathering food from plants
bronze	A material made by smelting copper and tin together
archaeology	The study of pre-history and history through discovered artefacts
neanderthal	A group of Homo Sapiens who lived in Ice Age Europe between 120,000 to 35,000 years ago. They had a receding forehead and a prominent brow ridge.

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Key Questions

- How long ago did prehistoric man live?
- What does Skara Brae tell us about life in the Stone Age?
- What changes happened in the different Stone Age periods?
- Who was the Amesbury Archer?
- How did bronze change life in the Stone Age?



Unit Outcomes

- ✓ Understand that prehistory was a long time ago.
- ✓ Accurately place AD and BC on a timeline.
- ✓ Identify conclusions that are certainties and possibilities based on archaeological evidence.
- ✓ Explain the limitations of archaeological evidence.
- ✓ Identify gaps in their knowledge of the Bronze Age.
- ✓ Explain how bronze was better than stone and how it transformed farming.

Links to other Subjects

English - free verse poetry inspired by the book 'A Rock is Lively'

Science - Investigating rocks and how soil is made

Art - inspired by cave drawings using charcoal as a medium

Reading - The Stone Age Boy and A Rock is Lively

Pre-historic Britain gave us

The agricultural landscapes in the Stone and Bronze Age have influenced current farming land. Blocks of small square or rectangular fields defined by hedges and ditches or walls lying alongside tracks and driveways, connects settlements and give access to outlying pastures.



Stonehenge is a prehistoric monument and World Heritage Site. It is a popular tourist attraction today. The huge stones were added in different stages. It is believed that some stones were brought from 240 miles away from Wales.

