



Stone Age to Iron Age Knowledge Organiser

Why is this period important?

The earliest known humans arrived in these lands around 900,000 years ago. During this time there were huge changes: the ice covering Britain melted; instead of hunting all the time, people learned to farm and make metal tools; they found time to worship. There is still evidence we can see around us today, such as Stonehenge, long burial mounds and hill forts which are thousands of years old. This, before the Romans invaded is often called prehistoric

Stone Age Life

The Stone Age is named after the stone tools that the earliest humans used to help them survive. They used them to kill animals, such as mammoths, for their meat, bone marrow and skins. The bones were also useful for making tools, such as needles to sew skins together. People in the Stone Age moved around from place to place with the seasons, in order to keep safe and warm and to follow the animals they hunted.

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Key vocabulary

The Ice Age	A very long period when the earth was extremely cold.
Palaeolithic Era	The early stone age. Humans used very basic tools.
Mesolithic Era	The middle stone age. Humans perfected their tools.
Neolithic Era	The new stone age. Humans began farming.
Neanderthals	Another type of human. They are now extinct.
Extinct	Animals that used to be alive but now they are all dead.
Torc	A piece of bronze jewellery.
Bronze	The first metal humans used.
Iron	A metal that is harder and stronger than Bronze.
Archaeologists	People who work out our history by looking at artefacts that have been found.
Artefact	An object made by human beings, Neolithic - Is the later part of the stone-age and follows the Palaeolithic and Mesolithic age.
Hunter-gatherers	People who mainly live by hunting, fishing and gathering wild fruit
Prehistoric	Before the Romans and written records
Prey	An animal that is hunted for its food.
Tribe/Tribal	Group of people, often of related families, who live in the same area and share the same language, culture, and history

Skara Brae

Skara Brae was discovered after a storm in AD 1850 removed the earth that had been covering it. It is a village of eight houses, linked by covered passageways. Not all of the houses were built at the same time. The later ones are slightly bigger but they have very similar features, such as a central fire pit and stone shelves. The village tells us a lot about life in the late Stone Age, including what people ate and what sort of tools they used.

