

Knowledge Organiser - Stone Tools to Iron Rules

Key Vocabulary

Prehistory	The time in history before written records
Palaeolithic	The three eras of the Stone Age
Mesolithic	
Neolithic	
Archaeologist	A scientist who studies the past



2.4 million years ago the planet was too cold for most humans to survive. This was called the ice age. Early humans were known as Homo Sapiens.

Early people moved around to follow the animals they hunted. They would also forage for fruit and berries to eat.

As time moved on, they began to grow their own food and keep their own animals - these were the first farms.

The Stone Age was a very long time that started with the first humans. In Britain, it began about 800,000 years ago. It's called the Stone Age because people used stone to make tools and weapons.

Why do you think the ice melted at the end of the Ice Age?



Palaeolithic people were very resourceful and didn't waste any part of the animals they hunted - they ate the meat and wore clothes made from animal skins to keep them warm.



What animals did humans raise in the Paleolithic era?

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Key Dates

800,000 BC	First people and the beginning of the Palaeolithic Era in Britain
10,000 BC	Palaeolithic Era ends and the Mesolithic Era begins
4500 BC	Mesolithic Era ends and Neolithic Era Begins
2400 BC	Bronze Age begins
500 BC	Iron Age begins
73AD	Romans invade Britain, ending the Iron Age

The Stone Age ended when people learned how to make Bronze by mixing together two other metals. Bronze was lighter, easier to work with and stronger than stone. This new age was called the Bronze Age.



Skara Brae



Can you find out which two metals make Bronze?



Iron was stronger than bronze, so when people started making tools and weapons from iron, the old bronze tools were no longer used, and the Iron Age began.

Skara Brae was built as a permanent Neolithic settlement to provide shelter and a community for early farming people.