

Year 3 History – How did Britain change from the Stone age to the Iron age?



In this unit we will explore who the first people in Britain were and learn about life in Britain from the Stone Age to the Iron Age, a period covering a million years of history! As well as understanding the chronology of this fascinating time, children will learn about the culture, food and inventions and how each of these areas developed and changed over time and how amazing developments occurred from the Stone Age to the Iron Age.



The Stone Age

It was a long period of time split into 3 periods: **Palaeolithic, Mesolithic and Neolithic.**

At the start of the Stone Age, people were hunter-gatherers. This meant that they had to move round to find food. They didn't settle or have a permanent home. They would find shelter in caves. They used tools that were made of stone. Towards the end of the Stone Age, people had learnt to farm, so didn't move around as much.

The Bronze age

People in Britain learnt how to make bronze and extract other metals from rocks. They made tools such as: daggers, blades, spearheads and axes out of bronze. They learnt these skills from people who had migrated from Europe to Britain. People became more powerful and wealthy.

The Iron Age

People in the Iron Age used tools made out of iron. Iron could be used to make objects such as nails, arrowheads and cooking pots. There were more conflicts between the tribes of people so they built hillforts to protect themselves, their land and their possessions.

Enquiry Questions:

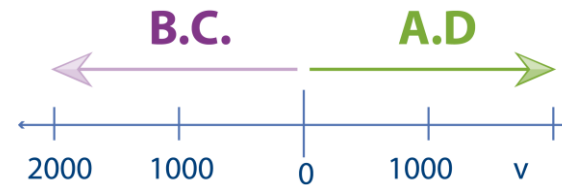
How did the peoples homes change from the Stone Age to the Iron Age?

How did the invention of tools change life during the Stone Age?

How did the discovery and use of metals like bronze and iron affect people's lives?



Skara Brae- A well preserved Stone age village in Orkney



BC and AD are used to mark time in history. BC means "Before Christ" and AD means "Anno Domini" (in the year of the Lord). They help us understand when events happened in relation to the birth of Jesus Christ.

Key Vocabulary

Agriculture	The practise of growing crops and rearing animals.
Ancient	very old, or having existed for a long time.
Archaeologist	A person who studies the past by looking at artefacts and remains.
Artefact	An object made by a human being which is historically interesting.
Flint	A stone that can be used to make tools or weapons and when struck together can create fire.
Hunter-Gatherer	A person kills animals for food and collects food which can be found. e.g. berries, nuts
Hillfort	A settlement built on a hill surrounded by a protective fence.
Prehistoric	Prehistory is any time before humans developed writing systems.
Nomads/Nomadic	A person who travels from place to place for food.
Settlement	A place where people live and work.
Tribe	A group of people who live and work together.

