

Year 3 – Spring 1 – Stone Age

Key Words	Definitions
archaeologists	Scientists who work like detectives looking for evidence. They use this evidence to build up a picture of the past.
artefact	An object that can tell us about the past.
hunter-gatherers	People who survived by hunting animals and finding food to eat.
nomad	People who travel from place to place searching for food.

What is prehistory?

Prehistoric Britain began when the first humans arrived in the British Isles. It ended when the Romans conquered the ancient Britons in AD 43 and Britain became part of the Roman Empire. The earliest humans were hunter-gatherers. They survived by hunting animals and finding food to eat. Very gradually, people learned new skills. First, they learned to herd animals and grow crops. Later, they discovered the secrets of making bronze and iron.

Images

Early Stone Age (Palaeolithic)	Middle Stone Age (Mesolithic)	Late Stone Age (Neolithic)	Bronze Age	Iron Age	
Stone Age					

important discoveries/artefacts that helped us learn more about life in Britain at this time:

Age	Discoveries/Artefacts	Image
Palaeolithic Age	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> artwork at Cresswell Crags 	
Mesolithic Age	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hawick House Cheddar Man Star Carr 	
Neolithic Age	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Skara Brae Stonehenge (last changes during the Bronze Age) 	
Bronze Age	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Must Farm Amesbury Archer 	
Iron Age	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> hill forts Lindow Man 	

Important Animals / Places / Figures

Prehistoric Mammals	Skara Brae	A Stone Age man
<p>During the Ice Ages, Britain was covered by ice and snow. Herds of mammoths, sabre-toothed tigers, reindeer and woolly rhinoceroses roamed across the snow and brown bears sheltered in caves.</p>	<p>The Skara Brae settlement on the Orkney Isles dates from between 3200 and 2700BC. It is made up of a group of one-roomed circular homes. You can still see them today.</p>	<p>Experts have recreated the face of this man whose body was found in a tomb near Stonehenge.</p> <p>Prehistoric people couldn't read or write, but they were incredible builders. Their tombs, forts and monuments have survived for thousands of years.</p>

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
HWK – Maths Book	HWK – Reading	HWK – Grammar Book	HWK – Reading	HWK – Spellings

Key Dates:

- Aspiration Week
- Stone Age Woodland Sessions
- Cliffe Castle Trip

KEY VOCABULARY

geology

the **study of rocks**

permeable

rock that **water can seep** through

impermeable

rock that **does not allow water to seep** through

fossils

the **preserved remains** or traces of a dead organism, the process by which a fossil is formed is called fossilisation

soil

soil is made from **small pieces of rock mixed with organic matter** (decaying plants and animals)

sediment

tiny **bits of rock, minerals, animal and plant matter** that get washed into bodies of water



sedimentary

rock that is formed by years and years of sediment (tiny bits of rock, sand, minerals, animals or plant matter) compacting together and becoming hard, e.g., shale, limestone and sandstone



igneous

rock formed by volcanoes as they erupt and spew out hot molten rock called magma or lava, eventually the magma will cool down and harden, e.g., basalt and granite



metamorphic

rock formed by great heat and pressure inside the Earth's crust, metamorphic rocks are often made from other types of rock, e.g., marble, soapstone

how rocks are formed

an ammonite (prehistoric sea creature)



a fossilised plant



an insect trapped in amber



Mary Anning

Mary Anning was a palaeontologist who discovered many fossils in the rocks along the cliff edge in Dorset on the south coast of England. Mary taught herself about geology so she knew where to look for fossils.

