

# History: Stone Age - Iron Age



## Key Vocabulary:

Archaeologist	A person who investigates the distant past by exploring artefacts and relics.
Paleolithic	the longest and earliest period, starting around 2.6 million years ago and ending around 10,000 BCE. During this time, humans used basic stone tools for hunting and gathering, and they were nomadic.
Mesolithic	lasted from approximately 10,000 to 4,000 BCE. This period saw the development of more refined tools and the beginnings of agriculture and domestication.
Neolithic	The shortest period which lasted from roughly from 4,000 to 2,500 BCE. It saw the development of agriculture, the use of polished stone tools, and the establishment of settled communities.
Bronze and Iron	Types of metal that were used to create stronger, more effective tools. Bronze is made by melting copper and tin (which was mined in Britain). Iron is made by melting iron ore (also mined in Britain).



## Sticky Knowledge Facts:

- The Stone Age was divided into 3 periods: the Paleolithic, Mesolithic and Neolithic. The earliest people who lived in Britain were part of the Stone Age.
- Paleolithic nomads had no permanent home and travelled, living in caves and simple shelters.
- One significant change from the Mesolithic to Neolithic period was that communities began to settle in one place so they could grow crops and keep domesticated animals for food.
- Neolithic communities created permanent settlements, such as Skara Brae, which enabled the development of agriculture.
- Bronze and Iron tools were more effective than stone because they were longer lasting (durable), sharper and were easier to craft into specific shapes
- As early Britons began to work with Bronze and Iron, tools became stronger and more effective. This made it easier to hunt and farm.

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