






HISTORY KNOWLEDGE

PREHISTORIC BRITAIN

Prehistory is the time that happened before humans had writing.

The first people in Britain lived around 900,000 years ago. Historians split prehistory time into 'ages' to find out what was different about them.

Stone Age	Bronze Age	Iron Age
		
When the first humans began to live in Europe. They used stones as tools.	In this era, metals were used to make hunting tools. Humans also began to farm land.	Humans used to iron to make tools and farmed land instead of hunting. They lived in communities.

Cheddar Man



STONEHENGE

Stonehenge is a prehistoric monument in England. It is made up of a ring of standing stones. It might have been used as a meeting place or for religious ceremonies.



SKARA BRAE

Skara Brae is a Neolithic settlement built out of stone in Scotland. It has helped historians find out more about how Stone Age people lived.



KEY LEARNING

Stone Age:

- Early Stone Age Man was a hunter-gatherer, travelling around following food sources, using flint tools to hunt animals.
- Cheddar Man was a Mesolithic skeleton discovered in 1903 and is the oldest complete skeleton found in Britain.

Bronze Age:

- The Bronze Age started when the Beaker People arrived from Europe with new ways of making metal. Tools were made from bronze - copper and tin were heated up and poured into casts.
- Bronze Age people lived in settlements, which was a group of round houses. Houses were made from wattle and daub or dry stone.
- Making tools from bronze meant people could farm the land more effectively.
- Settlements traded resources like copper and tin.
- Burials were important to Bronze Age people - they placed stone circles where burials took place.

Iron Age:

- Tools were made from iron. Iron was heated up then the hot iron was hammered into shape.
- Settlements became larger because tribes were better able to farm and defend themselves. People started to build forts as a symbol of power and a way of defending themselves. This collection of tribes was called the Celts.
- There were lots of battles between tribes who fought each other for more land and power and begun to organise into kingdoms.
- At the end of the Iron Age, coins were made and used as currency.
- The Iron Age ended when the Romans invaded Britain.

VOCABULARY



HISTORY KNOWLEDGE



Palaeolithic	Old or 'ancient' Stone Age.	
Mesolithic	Middle Stone Age	
Neolithic—	New Stone Age	
ancient	—belonging to the distant past	
Archaeologist	- someone who studies the past by exploring old remains	
Artefact	- an object from the past that shows evidence of what life was like	
Era	- a period of time in history. An era often begins or ends with an important event.	
Extinct	—no longer has any living members, either in the world or in a particular place	
Flint	- a piece of stone used in fire-starting and as a tool	
Foundry	—A place of work where metal castings are made.	
Forage	To look around for things to eat.	
Handaxe	A sharp tool that you can hold in your hand. It was used for hunting and building	

Hearth	the floor of a fireplace, or the stone or brick area	
Mammoth	— a large, elephant-like creature that is no longer	
Monu-	— a building, structure site that is of historical importance or interest.	
Migration	— movement from one place to another in order	
Nomad	— a person or a group of people with no fixed home who travelled around to find food and shel-	
Settler	— people who move to a new	
Settle-	— place / when people start a community	
Kingdom	— a country or area ruled	
Wattle	— sticks used to build	
Daub	— mud or clay used to build	
Tribes	group of people who live and work together in a	
Celts	—a group of tribes	

Timeline							
13,000 BCE	4500-3500 BCE	3300 BCE	2150 BCE	1800 BCE	1200-550 BCE	100 BCE	43 AD
People make cave paintings	Farming starts to begin to spread and pottery is made	Start of the Bronze Age	Metal tools are first made and used	The first copper mines are dug	Start of the Iron Age / The first hill forts are made	Coins are made and used for the first time /	Iron Age end with Romans in 43 AD

WHAT CAME BEFORE

Y 1—Migration & Year 2- United Kingdom

WHAT COMES NEXT

Year 3— The Shang Dynasty