

Key Changes and Events

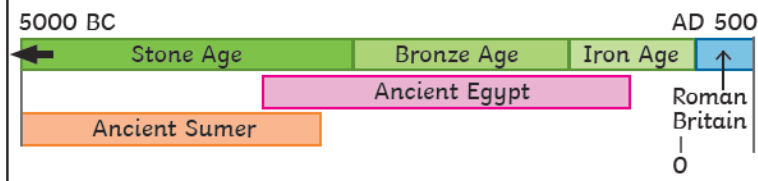
3000 BC	The village of Skara Brae is built in Orkney. The people who live there are beginning to farm their own food and build homes instead of travelling from place to place. Construction starts on Stonehenge in Wiltshire. It will take around 1000 years for it to be finished.
2500 BC	'Bell Beaker' culture arrives in Britain. These people are named for their distinctive decorative pottery.
2100 BC	Bronze begins to be used in Britain to make weapons and tools.
1800 BC	The first large copper mines are dug.
1200 BC	'Celtic' culture begins to arrive in Britain and tribal kingdoms develop.
800 BC	Iron begins to be used in Britain to make tools and weapons, instead of bronze. The first hillforts are constructed.
AD 43	The Romans invade Britain.

Stone Age Life

The Stone Age is named after the stone tools that the earliest humans used to help them survive. They used them to kill animals, such as mammoths, for their meat, **bone marrow** and skins. The bones were also useful for making tools, such as needles to sew skins together.

People in the Stone Age moved around from place to place with the seasons, in order to keep safe and warm and to follow the animals they hunted.

Timeline



Skara Brae, Orkney



Skara Brae

Skara Brae was discovered after a storm in AD 1850 removed the earth that had been covering it. It is a village of eight houses, linked by covered passageways. Not all of the houses were built at the same time. The later ones are slightly bigger but they have very similar features, such as a central firepit and stone shelves. The village tells us a lot about life in the late Stone Age, including what people ate and what sort of tools they used.

Stonehenge

Stonehenge is a famous prehistoric monument in southern England, built at the end of the Stone Age and into the **Bronze** Age. Originally, it was just an **earthwork** and up to 150 people were buried there. The huge stones that we see were added in different stages. Some were brought from 240 miles away in Wales.

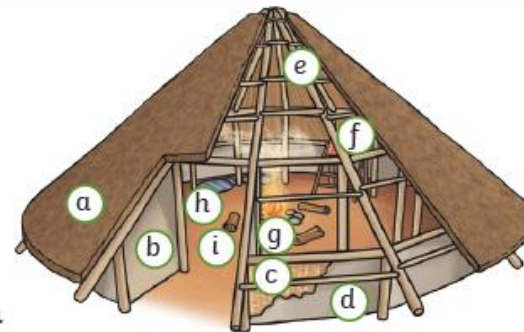


Key Vocabulary

bronze	A metal alloy made from a mixture of copper and tin. It is a much harder and more long-lasting material than stone or copper alone.
alloy	A metal made by combining two or more metals to improve its properties.
bone marrow	The substance inside bones, which is high in fat and a good energy source.
earthwork	A large bank or mound of soil that has been made on purpose.
Celt	A modern term for the people living in Europe during the Iron Age. The 'Celts' were made up of many different tribes . The word 'Celt' comes from a Greek word.
sacrifice	To give something up, break it or kill it as an offering to a god or gods.
tribe	A group of people, often related through family, culture and language, usually with one leader.
iron	A metal that is stronger and harder than bronze .

Roundhouses

- a. thick thatch
- b. door
- c. wattle
- d. daud
- e. timber frame
- f. upright loom
- g. hearth (fire)
- h. beds
- i. logs for sitting on

An **Iron** Age hillfort

Hillforts

People in the **Bronze** Age and **Iron** Age lived in roundhouses. These could be very large and would have housed many people. One household might have had two houses, one for living and one for cooking and making things. In the **Iron** Age, these houses were sometimes rectangular and were often gathered in farming communities on hills. These were known as 'hillforts'.

Between 500 and 100 BC, many parts of Britain were dominated by hillforts. These settlements provided a home for hundreds, and later thousands, of people.

Druids

Druids were the priests of the **tribes** we call 'Celts'. Their job was to communicate with the more than 400 gods that the people of the **tribes** believed in. They believed the gods lived in nature. The main festivals were based around important times in the farming year. The Druids **sacrificed** food, precious objects and even humans to keep the gods happy.

Druids were also like doctors and lawyers. They found cures in plants and resolved disagreements. Their opinions were more important than those of the king. It took at least 20 years to train to be a Druid. However, we only know about them from what the Romans wrote down.