

Prehistory

Life before civilisations used writing is called 'Prehistory'. Prehistory in Britain is made up of three different time periods: Stone Age,

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 to follow the animals they hunted.



Stone Age

Knowledge Organiser



Stone Age Periods

The Stone Age lasted for 3.4 million years. This period of time is divided into three periods:

*Palaeolithic (around 3.4 million years ago to 10,000 BC)

*Mesolithic (10,000BC to 8,000BC)

*Neolithic (8,000BC to 3,000BC)

Cave Paintings

Cave paintings are prehistoric works of art created by Stone Age people that have been found all over the world, with the oldest known being found in Europe.

They most often show pictures of animals, although some also show humans or use human handprints as the focus of the artwork.



A cave could be full of many paintings by many different painters.

Start of the Stone Age

At the start of the Stone Age, people were hunter gatherers who needed to move around to find food. There were no permanent settlements and people made simple shelters or live in natural caves. They used stone tools.

End of the Stone Age

By the end of the Stone Age, people had learnt how to farm. They built more permanent settlements because they did not need to move around to find food anymore. They also developed their skills in pottery and weaving.



Bronze Age

In Bronze Age, the people of Britain learnt how to make bronze and extract other metals from rocks. They learnt these metalworking skills from the people migrating from Europe to Britain. People started to become powerful and wealthy and conflict started.



Iron Age

In the Iron Age people started to use Iron to make things. There were more conflicts between the tribes of people and so they built hillforts to protect themselves, their land and their possessions. The Iron Age Britons had a lot in common with the Iron Age Europeans.



3000 BC

The village of Skara Brae is built in Orkney. Construction starts on Stonehenge in Wiltshire. It will take around 1000 years for it to be finished.

2500BC

'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.

1800BC

The first large copper mines are dug.

11200BC

Celtic culture begins to arrive in Britain and tribal kingdoms develop.

800BC

Iron begins to be used in Britain to make tools and weapons, instead of bronze. The first hillforts are built.

43 AD

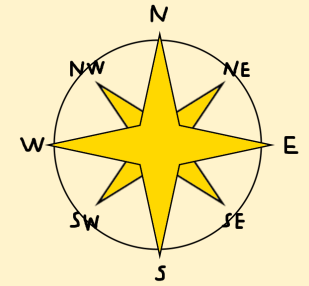
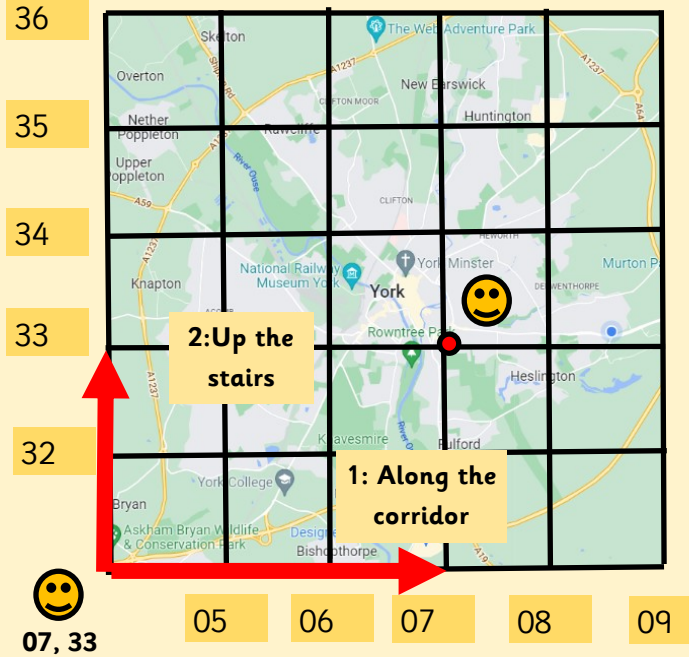
The Romans invade Britain.

Key Vocabulary

Alloy	A metal made by combining two or more metal to improve its properties.
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.
Bone marrow	The substance inside bones, which is high in fat and a good energy
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.
Iron	A metal that is stronger and harder than bronze.
Sacrifice	To give something up, break it or kill is as an offering to god or gods.
Tribe	A group of people, often related through family, culture and language,

Grid References

Grid references are used to locate exact places on a map. They are read by using the **bottom left hand corner** of the squares on the map. Like co-ordinates, they are read using the numbers **along the bottom of the map first**, followed by the numbers **up the side after**.



A compass can tell us the direction of a location. The image above shows the 8 points on a compass. Do you know what the letters stand for?

6-figure grid references can be used to create an even more accurate location. These work the same as 4 figure grid references, but each square is split in to 10 smaller squares to give a 3rd digit in both readings. So, the smiley face would read 074, 334.

Daily Life

People living in the Stone Age had two main concerns— food and shelter. Stone Age hunter-gatherers had to catch or find everything they ate. They moved from place to place in search of food. Early Stone Age people hunted with sharpened sticks. Later, they used bows and arrows and spears tipped with flint or bone. People gathered nuts and fruits and dug up roots. They went fishing using nets and harpoons.

In the early Stone Age, people lived in caves (hence the name cavemen) but other types of shelter were developed as the Stone Age progressed. There were no permanent settlements during the Stone Age. People moved around from place to place so that they could get the food and shelter they needed.

<u>Stone Age</u>	<u>Ancient Egypt</u>	<u>Ancient Greece</u>	<u>Romans</u>	<u>Anglo Saxons</u>	<u>Vikings</u>	<u>Victorians</u>	<u>World Wars</u>
15000 BC to 3,000BC	3100 BC to 30BC	776BC to 146BC	AD 43 to AD 410	AD 410 to AD 1066	AD 793 to AD 1066	AD 1837 to AD 1901	AD 1914 to 1918 1939 to 1945