

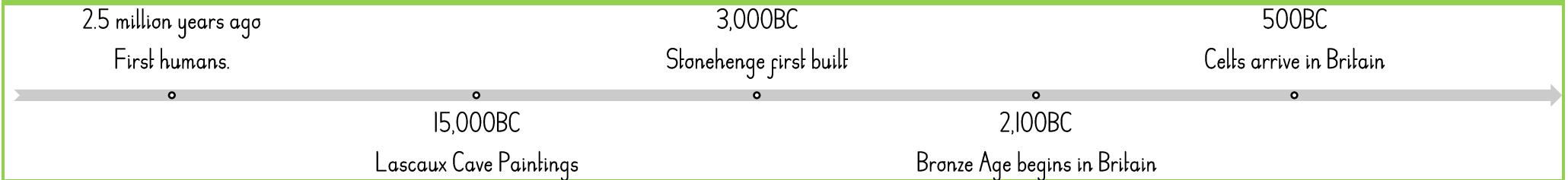


History – Stone Age to Iron Age



Year 3
Summer Term

Timeline



Key Vocabulary

Ancestors	A person related to you who lived a long time ago.
Nomadic	People who move from one place to another.
Archaeologists	a person who studies human history and prehistory through the excavation of sites and the analysis of artefacts.
Scavenging	Searching for food that can be eaten.
Migrate	Moving from one place to another.
Trade	Buying and selling goods with other groups of people.
Technology	The use of scientific discoveries for practical purposes.
Conquest	Taking control of a country or a group of people.
Influential	Makes people take notice.
Fortified	Protected against attack.
Ore	A rock that metal comes from.
Hunter-Gatherer	People who got their food from hunting animals and gathering vegetation.
Settlement	A community of people living in a place.



Iron weapons made fighting between tribes more common. A consequence of this was the need to build much safer, fortified settlements. Tribes built well defended hill forts that were often as large as small towns. The buildings inside, called roundhouses, were made of mud and wood with thatched roofs. Roundhouses were used as homes, gathering places and markets. Villagers who lived and farmed in areas outside the forts could also take shelter there if they were being attacked.

When? Key Events and Dates

2.5 Million
years ago



The Stone Age lasted a very, very long time. The oldest period of the Stone Age, the Palaeolithic period, began approximately 2.5 million years ago. The Middle Stone Age is called the Mesolithic period. The Neolithic period, often called the New Stone Age, dates back approximately 8–10,000 years. During the Stone Age, our ancestors started to use tools and weapons made out of stone to help them hunt and eat food. As a consequence of changes in global climate, crops became more readily available, and Stone Age humans began to farm the land. The Stone Age ended when humans began to use metal to make tools and weapons.

17,000 years
ago.
(Discovered
1940)



In 1940, four teenage boys made a remarkable discovery. While walking in woods in the Lascaux region of South West France, the boys came across some caves. Inside they found prehistoric cave paintings of animals, hands and symbols from 17,000 years ago. The discovery was significant because of how much it told archaeologists and historians about early Stone Age culture and society. Skilled artists had painted these drawings with powdered minerals and charcoal, using fire to allow them to paint in the darkness of the caves. There are other prehistoric cave paintings in Western Europe, particularly in France and Spain.

3000BC



The famous prehistoric stone circle, Stonehenge, was built over many hundreds of years. Work began in the late Stone Age, around 3000 BC. People made many changes to the monument over the centuries. The last changes were made in the early Bronze Age, around 1500 BCE. The size and scale of the monument suggests it was very important to the people who built it. No one is exactly sure of its purpose, but it could have been used as a place of worship. Other suggestions are that it was a form of solar calendar or even a communal burial ground.

3000BC



Skara Brae is a well preserved Stone Age village in the Orkney Islands, Scotland. This ancient settlement dates back to about 3000 BCE and was made up of several one-room dwellings with a communal room for cooking and working. These small houses were notable for their stone furniture, a drainage system and even indoor toilets! The village at Skara Brae was discovered in 1850 and has provided lots of artefacts which help us understand what life was like in the Stone Age. Historical sources from Skara Brae include jewellery, ornaments and dice games.

1000BC
(Discovered
2002)



The discovery of the Amesbury Archer at Amesbury, in Wiltshire, helped historians prove that the metalworking skills of the Bronze Age were brought here by people who had travelled from mainland Europe. They came to live and work in Britain, and had a significant influence on the culture, beliefs and pastimes of the people there.