

The Stone Age to the Iron Age

When were the Stone, Bronze and Iron Ages?

The **Stone, Bronze and Iron Ages** were a very long time ago! The Stone Age in Britain was nearly **one million years ago**. The Bronze Age followed the Stone Age and was around **4000 years ago**. The Iron Age followed the Bronze Age and this began around **3000 years ago**. All of these time periods are known as **pre-history**. Pre-history is the time before anything was written down. Written records in Britain only began around 1980 years ago. This means that for almost one million years, humans were living in Britain and not writing anything down.



Around 1 million to 4000 years ago. | Around 4000 to 3000 years ago. | Around 3000 to 1980 years ago.

Key Historical Vocabulary to learn and use

BCE Before Common Era	CE Common Era	BC Before Christ	AD Anno Domini
Stone Age	Iron Age	Bronze Age	domesticated
Neolithic	Hunter- Gatherer	Stonehenge	pre-history
settlement	conflict	hillforts	nomadic

Stone Age- one million years ago

At the start of the Stone Age, people were **hunter-gatherers**. This meant that they had to move round to find food. They didn't settle or have a permanent home. They would find shelter in caves. They used tools that were made of stone. Towards the end of the Stone Age, people had learnt to farm, so didn't move around as much. They built permanent settlements and developed skills in **weaving** and **pottery**.

Bronze Age- 4000 years ago

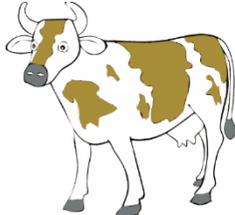
In the Bronze Age, people in Britain learnt how to **make bronze and extract other metals from rocks**. They made tools such as: daggers, blades, spearheads and axes out of bronze. They learnt these skills from people who had migrated from Europe to Britain. People became more **powerful** and **wealthy**. The Bronze Age was when **conflict** started.



Iron Age- 3000 years ago

People in the Iron Age used **tools made out of iron**. Iron could be used to make objects such as nails, arrowheads and cooking pots. There were more **conflicts** between the tribes of people so they built **hillforts** to protect themselves, their land and their possessions.



Hunter Gatherers and Farming	Cave Paintings	Stonehenge
<p>In the Stone Age, people were hunter-gatherers. They had to find or catch everything they ate. They hunted animals for their meat and skins which they used as clothes. Those who lived near water caught fish using nets. They collected fruit and nuts to add to their diet. People began farming at the start of the Bronze Age. They started to produce their own food. They build their own settlements and farms and were no longer nomadic. Their food would come from raising their own animals on the farm, or growing their own crops. Farms were made by clearing wooded areas and building houses surrounded by land. The wood was used to build and also for fuel. Stone Age farmers domesticated animals.</p> 	<p>Cave art is one of the few pieces of pre-historical evidence that we have remaining. Photographs of cave art are evidence that are called primary sources. Primary sources are first-hand historical evidence. They have a direct connection to the time, place and people. Stone Age artists used pigments from minerals and plants. Black, white and earthy shades of red and orange were common.</p> 	<p>Stonehenge is a very famous, pre-historic monument in Wiltshire, South England, The building of Stonehenge started around 5000 years ago, towards the end of the Stone Age and the beginning of the Bronze Age. It was originally an earthwork, where people were buried. The stones were added later. The stones are positioned very carefully to line up with sunrise at midsummer and sunset at midwinter. Archaeologists have many ideas as to what it was built for and used for, including: a place of healing, for singing and dancing and religious ceremonies.</p> 
<p>We can find out about the past by:</p>	<p>Key Historical Skills we will use and develop:</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● looking at and reading non-fiction books ● searching the internet ● watching video clips or TV shows about the time in history we want to find out about ● visiting museums ● looking at objects from the past 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Chronology ● Similarity & Difference ● Change & Continuity ● Evidence and Interpretation ● Historical Significance ● Cause & Consequence 	

