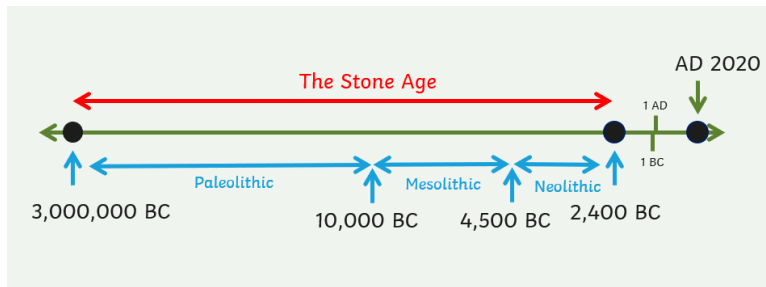


Knowledge Organiser

History: Stone Age

Key diagrams:



Different dwellings from The Stone Age:



Stone Henge - a prehistoric monument in Wiltshire, England. It consists of a ring of standing stones, with each standing stone around 4 metres high. Its purpose and how it was built remains uncertain.



Skara Brae - a stone-built Neolithic settlement, located in the Orkney region in Scotland. It is a cluster of eight houses, which was occupied between 3000 and 2500 BC.



Cave paintings - Early humans may have used art as a way of helping themselves in their struggle for survival. Paintings of animals on cave walls are common. The famous cave paintings at Lascaux in southwest France are about 18,000 years old.

Key words

- BC - 'Before Christ' dating years before the birth of Jesus. The bigger the number BC, the longer ago it was.
- AD - 'Anno Domini' used to show dates after the birth of Jesus.
- pre-history: time period before written records existed (e.g. Stone Age, which began around 2.5 million years ago.)
- chronology: the arrangement of events or dates in the order of when they happened.
- hominids - humans or close relatives of humans.
- Paleolithic - (beginning of Stone Age) Earliest hominids, Homo habilis, who used simple stone tools, slowly developed into the modern humans we call Homo sapiens.
- Mesolithic - 'Middle Stone Age'. People led largely nomadic lives as hunter-gatherers, on the move to survive.
- Neolithic - 'New Stone Age'. Farming began, pottery was developed and villages were built.
- primitive - being the first or earliest of the kind or in existence, especially in an early age of the world.
- evolution - a gradual process of change over time.
- Bronze Age: Bronze replaced stone as the best material for making tools. People were able to build better farming equipment.
- Iron Age: Iron replaced bronze as the main material for making tools and weapons. People lived in tribes and they were often at war with each other.

Key facts

The Stone Age was a prehistoric period that began around 3 million years ago and ended around 4-6 thousand years ago. It is named after the stone tools that the earliest humans used to help them survive. They were hunter-gatherers who used these tools 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 for clothes.