

YEAR 3 and 4: Autumn 1

Does the past influence us today? (Stone Age)

fear	identity	community	influence
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COVERAGE:

- When the Stone Age was?
- Skara Brae
- Life in the Stone Age
- Compare their lives with ours today.
- Stonehenge and its importance.
- Roles of people in the Stone Age.

KEY LANGUAGE AND VOCABULARY:

BC/AD
Century
Chronology
Chronological order
Timeline
Period
Archaeologist
Excavate
Evidence
Similarities
Difference
Historical information
Historian
Artefact
Source
Research
Change
Time difference
Shape our lives
Importance
Accurate picture of the past

KNOWLEDGE AND FACT SHEET

Stonehenge
In 1830, a Stone Age village thought to have been built around 3000 BC was discovered on Orkney, off the North coast of Scotland.
It provided evidence that the Stone Age people were beginning to settle down, making homes and farming rather than constantly moving around.
The remains of eight circular houses were discovered. These houses contained a fire pit in the middle, built into the walls and a set of stone shelves called a dresser. The roofs were possibly made from a timber or whalebone frame covered in animal skin or grass.
It is believed that the original village was added to later with larger houses being more rectangular.
Carved patterns can be found on the walls of one of the buildings.

Weapons
Weapons such as bone axes, spears, bows and arrows were all used to hunt for food.

Stonehenge
A very famous, prehistoric monument in Wiltshire, England. Building started around 5000 years ago.
Originally, this monument was just an earthwork and up to 100 people were buried there.
Huge stones were then added in different stages.
What we see today are enormous stones placed in a circular and horseshoe pattern.

Seeds, berries, nuts, eggs and insects were also gathered.
Horse, deer, hare, rabbits, fish were all eaten. Every part of the animal was used including bone marrow and the skin for clothing.

Some of the stones were brought from Preseli, Gwynedd, South Wales - 240 miles away!
It is thought to have been used for ancient ceremonies or places of healing.
Some of the stones were vertical stones with a horizontal stone lying across the top making 'doorways'.

Key Vocabulary
ancient - something from the study of the things outside of Earth's atmosphere from the very distant past.
bone marrow - A substance high in fat and nutrients found inside bones.
earthwork - A large bank or mound that has been made by moving soil.
fire - A very hard stone that can produce a spark when struck by another stone.
hunter-gatherer - Someone who hunts animals and gathers wild food to eat.
prehistoric - Before written records began.

Timeline
Prehistoric
Stone Age
Bronze Age
Iron Age
Roman Britain
AD 1000

When Was the Stone Age?
The Stone Age is period of time when humans used stone to make tools. It covers a huge period of time - over 3 million years.
It can be broken down into 3 smaller time periods:
Paleolithic - around 3,000,000 BC. Early humans used simple stone tools with sharp edges.
Mesolithic - around 10,000 BC. Humans were hunter-gatherers and constantly on the move in order to stay safe and warm.
Neolithic - around 4500-2400 BC. Farming developed and villages were built.

What Did the Stone Age People Have to Do?
hunt and gather food
find water and shelter
skin animals and make clothes
collect firewood for making fires to cook on and keep warm
make tools and weapons

There is evidence that the Stone Age people were skilled at fishing and crafts. We also know that they developed farms to live off and that they took part in religious rituals.

KEY QUESTIONS:

- What is the Stonehenge?
- Why is the Stonehenge famous?
- When was the Stone Age?
- What did Stone Age people do?
- What is Skara Brae?
- Where is Skara Brae?
- What can we learn from the Stone Age?
- Does the Stone Age have any influence on us today?

KEY SKILLS:

Year 3

- I can use sources to find information out about events, people and changes.
- I can ask questions and find the answers to my questions.
- I can compare the lives of people from a period of history and life today.
- I can use evidence to describe the clothes, way of life and actions of people in the past.

Year 4

- I can use and evaluate sources to find information about events, people and changes.
- I can ask questions and find answers to my questions.
- I can describe how some of the things I have studied from the past influence life today.
- I can identify and explain reason for and results of historical events and changes within a period studied.

ENRICHMENT:

- Role play/drama.
- WOW Day/Visitor.
- Year 3 Writing links - narrative (dialogue) and setting and Persuasion. Year 4 Writing links - Narrative and explanation.

PUPIL LEADERSHIP:

- Topic homework
- Discussion/ debate - How do our lives compare?
- Independence
- 'Become the expert' about a Stone Age topic.