

# Year 3: Through the Ages

# Stone, Bronze and Iron Age The 3 main periods of prehistory, names the material used to make tools.

## WHEN?

Stone Age			Bronze Age	Iron Age
<b>Palaeolithic</b> c750,000–c10,000 BC Duration: 740,000 years	<b>Mesolithic</b> c10,000–c4000 BC Duration: 6000 years	<b>Neolithic</b> c4000–c2500 BC Duration: 1500 years	c2500–c800 BC Duration: 1700 years	c800 BC–AD 43 Duration: 843 years

## WHAT?

### Stone Age



**Tools and Weapons.** Tools were made from stone, wood and bone. They were used for digging, hunting and chopping.

**Shelters.** People lived in temporary shelters or caves. By the end, there were some settlements.



**Hunters.** People hunted animals and gathered food. They made clothes from animal skin and made cave art.



**The end.** The Beaker folk arrived and brought their knowledge and metal working skills.

### Bronze Age



**Tools and Weapons.** Bronze tools were sharper and more efficient than Stone tools. Only wealthy people owned them.

**Round houses.** People lived in round houses. Walls and fences protected their homes.



**Beaker Folk.** The Beaker Folk brought pottery and metal work to Britain, so farming was easier and there was more food. So the population grew.



**The end.** People stopped using metal during the Bronze Age collapse.

### Iron Age



**Tools and weapons.** Iron tools and weapons were sharp and strong. Everyone could own iron tools.

**Hillforts.** People lived in hillforts. There were settlements built on a hill, protected from attacks by ditches and fences.



**Tribes.** Tribes attacked each other to steal land, food and possessions. People made art, music and poetry in their tribes.



**The end.** The Romans invaded Britain. They made written records, which ended prehistory in Britain.

## GLOSSARY



**archaeologist** - someone who studies objects from the past.



**artefact** - an object made by a person that is of historical interest.



**bronze** - a metal alloy made from tin and copper.



**Bronze Age collapse** - a period at the end of the Bronze Age when society in Britain and Europe collapsed.



**Celts** - a group of people from Europe, who brought ironworking skills to Britain.



**stone circle** - standing stones arranged in a circle.



**sacrifice** - an animal or person that is killed and offered to the gods.



**votive offering** - an object put in water or the ground as a gift to the gods.



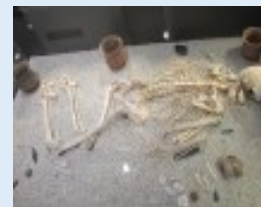
**torc** - a neck ring made from metal.



**Stone Henge.** A stone circle used for different activities.



**Skara Brae.** A Neolithic settlement of stone houses in Orkney, Scotland.



**Amesbury Archer.** A grave near Stonehenge which also had tools and Bell Beaker pottery.