| What we already know: | Year 3 History: Stone Age to Iron Age | What's next? |
|---|---|---|
| Millions of years ago dinosaurs lived on Earth.<br>Mary Anning discovered fossils from the Dinosaur Era.<br>Metal can be found across the land in Britain.<br>Britain has nutrient rich soil which is good for farming animals and plants. | | Romans invade Britain.<br>The Iron Age Celts surrender to the Romans.<br>Britain's towns are established and connected with roads.<br>Study the Ancient Egyptians who were living in the same period as the Stone – Iron age. |

## Eras

| Timeline | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Prehistoric | Pre-History BCE/BC | | | 1 CE/AD | Modern History | | | Present |
| Dinosaurs Extinct | Stone Age 100,000 – 4,000 BC | Bronze Age 2,500 – 650 BC | Iron Age 650 BC – 43 AD | | | | Victorian Era | 2024 |

## Key Events

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 65,000,000 BCE No humans on Earth | 3,000,000 BCE Palaeolithic Period<br>800,000 BCE Used stones tools, Nomadic<br>10,000 BCE Mesolithic Period<br>4,500 BCE Neolithic Period | 2,100 BCE Metal was used for the first time | 750 BCE – 43 CE Large, organised tribes Used Iron for tools | 43 CE End of Iron Age | | 1451 Christopher Columbus | 1666 Great Fire of London | 1799 Mary Anning<br>1820 Florence Nightingale | Year 3 |

### Story of Britain

- Know that the humans of the Stone Age lived many thousands of years after dinosaurs had disappeared.
- The first Britons emerged were nomadic hunter gatherers who made tools out of stone as metal had not been discovered.
- Approximately 2000 years later, people discovered bronze and started using it to make tools, weapons and jewellery. The Bronze Age lasted for just over 1000 years.
- Around 750 BC, people discovered how to use iron, a much stronger metal. This was the iron age. The people in Britain at the time were known as the Celts and they invented many new ways of doing things that meant that people could start making goods that could be traded.

### Society and Government

- Stone Age people usually lived in small groups and were nomadic.
- The Celts began to settle into large tribes as iron tools meant people could start farming the land and didn't need to move around to gather food.
- The tribes were ruled by Chieftains - these could be men or women. Later some were known as Kings or Queens.

Iron Age – Celtic Tribes



### Economy and Trade

- Celts traded with the Gauls (France) and with the Romans. There was trade in clothing and woven baskets, hunting dogs, grains, wood and animal skins. This meant they could earn money which first appeared in Britain around 80BC.



Bronze Age Axe Head

- The Romans liked the goods the Celts traded, and it showed them how much wealth there was in Britain.



Wool



Tin



Jewellery



Celtic Coins

### Beliefs

- Stonehenge – historians think that the position of the Stones is because Stone Age Britons worshiped the sun (and other parts of nature such as the stars) as a god.



Stonehenge, England, UK.

- Worshiping the sun and other gods was normal until the Romans came.

Bronze Age jewellery of the stars, moon and sun.



| Vocabulary – Stone Age to Iron Age | |
|---|---|
| **Tier One** | |
| Stone<br>Metal<br>Wealthy<br>Farming<br>Weapons<br>Travel<br>Celts | |
| **Tier Two** | |
| Nomadic | Moves around the country to find food and shelter every day |
| Tin | A metal found in the UK |
| Copper | An orange-coloured metal that turns green over time |
| Bronze | A strong metal made from tin and copper |
| Iron | A very strong metal found over large areas of the UK. |
| Crops | Wheat, corn, vegetables to eat |
| Army/Armies | Organised soldiers for protection and attacking other tribes or countries |
| Ancient | Over 2000 years ago |
| BC | Before Christ (Ancient) |
| BCE | Before Common Era (Ancient) |
| AD | Anno Domini (Since year 1 to the present 2023) |
| CE | Common Era (Since year 1 to the present 2023) |
| Tribe | A group of people that work together to survive |
| Trade | Buy and Sell goods you need for money |
| Afterlife | A belief that when you die your body lives on in a new place |
| **Tier Three** | |
| Equality<br>Migrated<br>Warfare<br>Iceni<br>Territories<br>Summer Solstice<br>Winter Solstice | |

# Stone Age to the Iron Age

## 15000 - 10000 BC

The Lascaux Caves in France are thought to contain some of the oldest cave paintings. The paintings (and engravings) mainly depict animals but no one is sure of the original purpose behind them. They may have been: part of religious rituals, representations of everyday life, used to mark or record the passing of time, some sort of calendar or part of superstitious behaviour relating to hoping for a good hunt.

## 15000 - 10000 BC

Animal hide is used to make tents. An example from this period has been found in France.



## 4500 - 3500 BC

People begin to make simple pottery and farming begins to spread.

## 3000 BC

Construction starts on Stonehenge in Wiltshire. It will take around 1000 years for it to be finished. The purpose of the site is a mystery, however, evidence of cremations seem to indicate that it was used as a burial ground from time to time. It is also thought to be a ceremonial site, where services marked the passing of time, seasons and cycles of life and death. The average weight per stone is 25 tonnes (that is around the weight of 25 elephants!). The stones originated from the Preseli Hills in South West Wales, but historians are yet to agree on how they transported the stones to the site of Stonehenge.



14000 BC | 12000 BC | 10000 BC | 8000 BC | 6000 BC | 4000 BC | 3000 BC | 2000 BC

STONE AGE | BRONZE AGE

## 8200 BC

The last 'land bridge' from Lincolnshire and East Anglia to Holland is taken over by salt marsh and eventually, by 6000 BC, it dissapears altogether and is taken over by sea water. This water is a result of the great ice sheets from the last ice age thawing.

## 4000 - 3000 BC

People start to domesticate and ride horses. Before this, people could only travel by foot.

## 3500 - 3350 BC

The earliest well-dated image of a wheeled vehicle (a wagon) dates from this period. It was discovered on a clay pot found in Poland.

## 2500 - 1500 BC

Bronze axes are developed which leads to advances in woodworking techniques.

## 2800 - 1800 BC

'Bell Beaker Culture' arrives in Britain. Sometimes shortened to 'Beaker Culture' these were a group of immigrants named for their distinctive decorative pottery. The pottery had bands filled with impressions made from a comb or cord.





## AD 43

Emperor Claudius sends the Roman army to Britain. They land at Richborough, Kent.

## 100 BC

Coins are made for the first time. By 20 BC, silver and bronze are being used in the South East of England.



## 330 BC

The first written record of the British Isles by a Greek merchant and explorer. He described the inhabitants as skilled wheat farmers, usually peaceable but formidable in war where they used horse-drawn chariots.

## 800 BC

The first hillforts are constructed. Hillforts were defended settlements that made use of natural rises in the landscape for defensive advantages.



AD 43 | BC 1 | 200 BC | 400 BC | 600 BC | 800 BC | 1000 BC

IRON AGE

## 54 BC

In 55 BC, Julius Caesar raids South East England on what is thought to be a reconnaissance trip. In 54 BC, he returns with 5 legions (about 25 000 men). War waged until a rebellion in Gaul (a region of Western Europe) forced him to withdraw, never to return. He reported that the Britons dyed their bodies with woad (this gave a bluish colour) and are shaved everywhere except for the upper lip.



## 200 BC

Earliest known reference to druids. A druid was a member of the priestly people amongst the Celts. Very little is known about them as they left no account of themselves. The only evidence is a few descriptions left by explorers, artists and authors.



## 700 - 500 BC

Iron working technology becomes widespread through England, Scotland and Wales. A wide range of tools and weapons have been found; many of saws, chisels and other carpentry tools are very similar to the ones we use today!

Small farms and networks of fields start to develop. Evidence has been found of people farming cattle, sheep and pigs as well as the processing of wheat, barely and oats.

## 1200 - 800 BC

Celtic culture and tribal kingdoms start to emerge and the use of metal work increases. Major innovations were small axes and leaf-shaped blades.



## 1800 BC

The first large copper mines are dug. Two of the best known are at Mount Gabriel in County Cork and Great Orme, North Wales.



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