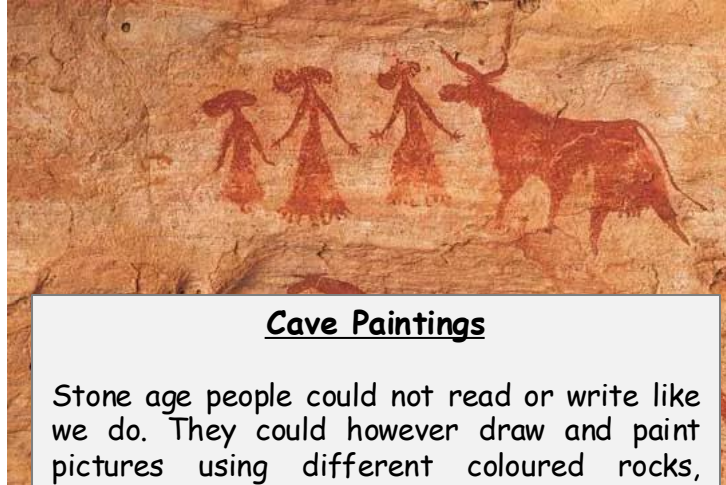




# Pre-Historic Britain

## Vocabulary

<b>agriculture</b>	The growing of crops to be eaten by humans.
<b>ancestors</b>	Our relatives who have passed away, usually a long time ago.
<b>artefact</b>	An object made by a human that is of historical interest.
<b>archaeologist</b>	A person who learns about the past by digging up artefacts and studying them.
<b>bone marrow</b>	A material which is high in fat and nutrients found inside of bones. It can be eaten.
<b>earthwork</b>	A large bank or mound (hill) that has been made by humans moving soil.
<b>flint</b>	A very hard stone. It can produce a spark when hit with another stone and was used to create fire.
<b>forage</b>	To look for food and other useful items.
<b>hunter-gatherer</b>	Someone who hunts animals and gather wild food to eat.
<b>Neolithic period</b>	The last part of the stone age, when humans began to develop agriculture and the use of tools and weapons.
<b>Palaeolithic period</b>	The earliest part of the Stone Age. Tools made of chipped stone were used and cave art was created.
<b>prehistoric</b>	A time before records began.
<b>tribes</b>	A group of people that live together for protection.



### Cave Paintings

Stone age people could not read or write like we do. They could however draw and paint pictures using different coloured rocks, charcoal, animal blood and berries. Some of these have been preserved in caves. These pictures often showed animals or Stone Age people hunting animals.

Dear parents,

Our next Humanities topic is a History unit called 'Pre-Historic Britain'. Please help your children to prepare for this topic by learning some of the key words and the facts on this sheet.

There are some homework activities on the back of this sheet. Your child can complete these at any time. Your child's teacher would love to see what they have created.

Thank you for your support,  
Kind regards,  
Year 3 Teachers

### Where did Stone Age people live?

Some early Stone Age people sheltered in caves. We know this because archaeologists have discovered cave paintings of ancient animals inside of caves. Most Stone Age people however lived in tents made with wood or animal bones and animal skins.



### Archaeologists

**Archaeologists** are people who find out about history by looking at things that people made, used or left behind (**artifacts**). Often these artefacts have become buried over time. These tell us about how people lived.



# Prehistoric Timeline

Stone Age

Bronze Age

Iron Age

Romans

Palaeolithic Period

Mesolithic Period

Neolithic Period

- Hunter-gatherers hunted animals and gathered fruits and nuts.
- People lived in small groups.
- Settlements were temporary and people moved often in search of food.
- Seeds, berries, nuts (like acorns and hazelnuts), eggs and insects (like snails and caterpillars) were foraged and eaten.
- Horse, deer, hares, seabirds, mammoths, fish and rhinos were all eaten during the Stone Age by our ancestors. Every part of the animal was used including bone marrow and the animal's skin for clothing.

- People started to farm and to keep animals for food.
- People started to live in larger groups.
- Settlements were more permanent, and they often grew around farmland.

A big change happened thousands of years ago when humans discovered metal.

The first metal used was bronze. Bronze is made by mixing two metals, copper and tin. Bronze is much better for making tools and weapons than flint and stone and it is much sharper..

Iron is more difficult to make than bronze and it is not as good. Tin was difficult to find and iron, which comes from iron ore (a type of rock), was common. This became the most common metal used.

The prehistoric period ended when the Romans invaded Britain in 43AD.



## **Fire!**

Stone Age people started using fire about 400,000 years ago. Before this they would eat all their meat uncooked!



## **Stonehenge**

Stonehenge is a famous stone circle in Wiltshire, England.

It was built 5000 years ago.

It took about 1000 years to build.

Scientists think that the stones were used to tell the time of the year.

Each of the stones came from Wales. Some of them weigh more than 4 elephants each. Nobody knows how they were moved.



## **Homework Ideas:**

- Make your own cave art. This could be done on paper or even on a rock.
- Make a model of a stone age tent or cave.
- Make your own model/drawing of Stonehenge or part of it.
- Stone age people made their own pots from clay. Can you make your own pot?
- Create an information guide about the stone age.