



Key Vocabulary

- Chronology – the order of key events
- Archaeology – the study of historical items dug from the ground
- Artefacts – man-made objects of historical interest
- Paleolithic/Neolithic – periods of time before metal was used by man
- Bronze/Iron age – periods of time when man was able to use metal for building and tools
- Nomad – member of a community that has no fixed settlement
- Domesticate – to tame animals
- Artisan – expert craftsperson
- Fossil evidence – ancient remains
- Prehistory – Period of time before written evidence
- Era – a significant period in time
- Homo neanderthalensis – an extinct species of human that died out around 40,000 years ago
- Homo sapiens – our own species
- Hunter-gatherer – survival by foraging
- Primitive – early forms
- Settlement – a static community

Key Knowledge

- Know how Britain changed between the beginning of the stone age and the iron age
- Know the main differences between the stone, bronze and iron ages
- Know what is meant by ‘hunter-gatherers’
- Give examples of what life was like for early humans
- Give the chronology of the 3 eras

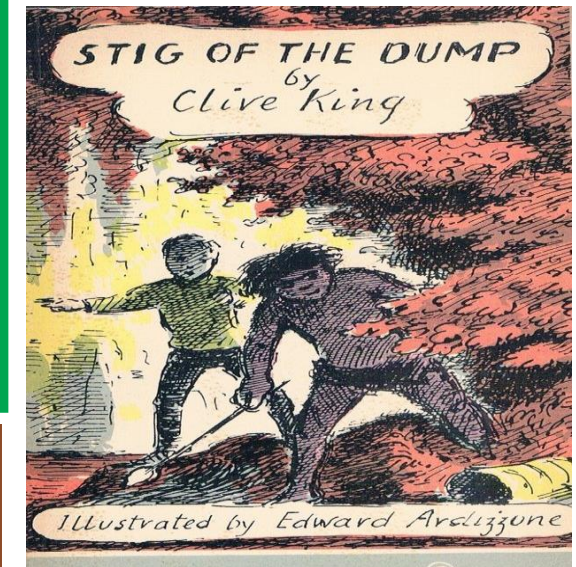


Journey through the ages

Stone Age to The Iron Age

A Brief History of Events

The Stone Age began 4 million years ago when the first humans lived in Africa.	The Bronze Age in Britain lasted from 2500 BC to around 800 BC. This puts it before Iron Age and after Stone Age.	Unlike bronze which is poured, iron is worked by heating and hammering on an anvil. This is called smithing.
Homo habilis was an early human that lived around 2 million years ago. We think these were the first people to use stone tools.	The oldest Bronze Age started in the Near East around 3300 BC with the Egyptians and Mesopotamians.	Iron was better than bronze for many things because it was harder and blades stayed sharp for longer.
The first people arrived in Britain over 700,000 years ago.	Bronze is an alloy (a mix of metals). It is made from 90% copper and 10% tin.	The Celts were the most powerful group of people living in Europe in the Iron Age.
Modern humans (or Homo sapiens) first appeared around 300,000 years ago.	Bronze was a hard metal which was used to make tools for farming, weapons and decoration.	The Iron Age ended in 43 AD when the Romans invaded Britain.
The Stone Age ended around 4000 BC when people discovered how to make copper and bronze (The Bronze Age).	The Iron Age lasted in Britain for about 850 years (from c.800 BC to AD 43).	An 'Age' starts when a country or area starts using that material.



The Early Stone Age (Paleolithic)	The Middle Stone Age (Mesolithic)	The Late Stone Age (Neolithic)	The Bronze Age	The Iron Age
500,000 BC – 8000 BC	8000 BC – 4000 BC	4000 BC – 2500 BC	2500 BC – 700 BC	700 BC – AD 43