

## History Subject Knowledge Bank Year 3: Stone Age to Iron Age

<u>Vocabulary</u>	<u>Definition</u>
<b>Hunter-gatherers</b>	People who live chiefly by hunting and fishing, and harvesting wild food.
<b>Nomadic Civilisations</b>	Groups of people who move around depending on where resources are.
<b>Prehistoric</b>	The period before written records.
<b>Fort</b>	A building designed to be defended from attack.
<b>Enquiry</b>	Asking for information.
<b>Tribal Kingdoms</b>	A group of people who share the same values and belong together.
<b>Period</b>	Intervals in history
<b>Stonehenge</b>	A prehistoric monument.

### What was it like in the Stone Age?

- The earliest period of human culture when stone tools were first used.
- It occurred across the globe at different times; in Britain, the Stone Age was around 12,000 years ago, 2.6 million years ago in East Africa and 2.5 million years ago in India.
- The earliest humans were hunter-gatherers. First, they learned to herd animals and grow crops.
- Prehistoric people couldn't read or write, but they were skilled builders.
- Their tombs, forts and monuments have survived for thousands of years.
- By the end of the Stone Age, people had settled in villages to farm the land.

### What was it like during the Bronze Age?

- During this era, people discovered how to make bronze. This was a huge development and meant their tools would be much stronger.
- People lived in small communities led by a warrior chief. They gathered for religious ceremonies and built circular tombs for important men and women.

### What was it like during the Iron Age?

- The last period of prehistoric Britain. Around 800 BC people in Britain learned how to use iron and this had a dramatic impact on everyday life.
- Iron tools made farming much easier and settlements grew in size. Farming flourished and the British population grew very fast.
- Iron Age Britain was a violent place. People lived in clans that belonged to tribes led by warrior kings. Rival tribes fought with deadly iron weapons.
- Many people lived in hill forts to keep safe from attacks.
- The Iron Age ended in Britain in AD 43 when the Romans arrived. Slowly, people stopped living in tribes and began to follow a Roman way of life.

### When did the prehistoric age end?

- The prehistoric period came to an end when the Romans invaded Britain.
- In 55BC Julius Caesar tried to invade Britain, but he was driven back by The Britons.
- Almost 100 years later, in AD43, the Roman Emperor Claudius invaded again. This time the Romans conquered Britain. Some ancient Britons ran away to Cornwall, Wales and Scotland, where they continued to follow their Celtic customs.
- Many decided not to move. They stayed on in Britain and learned to live like the Romans.



### Cheddar Man

The Cheddar man was a member of a population of nomadic hunters who thrived during the middle stone age about 10,000 years ago. Cheddar Man had dark skin, blue eyes and was about 166 centimetres tall. He died in his twenties. His skeleton was uncovered in 1903 in Gough's Cave.

### What is Stonehenge?

It is a famous monument that stands on Salisbury Plain, in Wiltshire. It was built over many hundreds of years. Work began in the late Neolithic Age and over the next thousand years, people made many changes to the monument. The last changes were made in the early Bronze Age, around 1500 BC.