






YEAR 3: HISTORY AUTUMN 1: STONE AGE TO IRON AGE

Stone Age			Bronze Age	Iron Age
Palaeolithic 	Mesolithic 	Neolithic 		
500,000BCE - 8,000BCE	8,000BCE - 4,000BCE	4,000BCE - 2,500BCE	2,500BCE - 700BCE	700BCE - 43CE

Key Vocabulary	
BCE	Before Common Era
CE	Common Era
Hunter-gatherer	A combination of hunting, fishing and collecting wild food.
Ice Age	A time where thick sheets of ice covered the land.
nomadic	A lifestyle where people did not have permanent homes.
domesticated	An animal that is kept by humans on a farm.
wattle and daub	A mixture of poo, clay and mud stuck to sticks.
alloy	A metal made by combining two or more metals.
smelted	Extract metal from rock by heating.

Palaeolithic (Early Stone Age): Britain was still connected by land to France and Denmark. People used simple stone tools and travelled by foot. Clothes were made from animal skins. **Hunter-gatherers** lived off berries, nuts, fish and wild animals. Humans discovered how to make fire.

Mesolithic (Middle Stone Age): The last **Ice Age** in Britain ended and Britain became an island. People polished and sharpened their stone tools to create spears and arrows. They lived **nomadic** lives but often settled near rivers. Homes were temporary shelters made of animal skins and wood. **Domesticated** wolves were used for hunting.

Neolithic (Late Stone Age): Pottery was developed and people also learnt how to weave and make clothes. Groups of people began to settle in villages. Their homes were made from wood, stone and **wattle and daub** with thatched roofs. People also started to domesticate horses and farming began. Crops such as wheat and barley were grown.



YEAR 3: HISTORY AUTUMN 1: STONE AGE TO IRON AGE

Bronze Age:

Bronze is an **alloy** made from copper and tin. The Bronze Age is so-called because people began to make tools from bronze! Bronze was also used for weapons, armour and decoration.



In the Bronze Age, wool was woven into sheets of fabric to make clothes. Both men and women wore: long woollen skirts, tunics and cloaks.

A Bronze Age farming household might have had one building for sleeping in and another for cooking and weaving. They were often built on stilts to prevent flooding.

As the weather in Britain became warmer, people were forced to move into lowland areas where it was easier to grow food and find shelter. Large areas of woodland started to be cut down to make more land available for farming.



Inside of a Bronze Age house

Iron Age:

Iron replaced bronze as the chosen metal for making most weapons and tools. The iron was **smelted** from rocks, heated and hammered into shape. Iron was easier to shape compared to bronze and could be made into finer, sharper objects such as:



spears and arrow heads



daggers and swords

The people living in Europe during the Iron Age were called Celts. The Celts wore tight-fitting trousers and woollen tunics tied with a belt.

They lived in communities called clans in settlements called hillforts. The hillforts were protected villages built upon natural hills. People lived in timber-framed roundhouses, with wattle and daub walls and thatched roofs.



**Castell Henllys hillfort
Pembrokeshire, Wales**

Iron Age people lived mostly as farmers, growing crops such as wheat, barley and rye. Animals such as cows, pigs and sheep were farmed for meat, milk, wool and leather.