



Topic:	The Stone Age	Year:	3	Term:	Autumn
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Key Facts

What was the Stone Age?

The Stone Age was the period of time when early humans walked on planet Earth.

Why was it called the Stone Age?

The Stone Age was the time when humans used stone weapons and tools to help them.

We know this because of old stone weapons and tools that have been found buried deep below the Earth.

What was it like to live in the Stone Age?

There were three main times to the Stone Age and each one saw many changes to how humans lived.



Cave Paintings	Foraging	Shelter
Early humans painted stories on walls.	As well as hunting animals, early humans would search bushes - forage - for berries and fruit.	Shelter was an important part of life as people needed a place to stay. To start with, it was usually a place near to food.

Word	Explanation
Stone Age	period of history where people used stone for tools and weapons
Palaeolithic	earliest era of the Stone Age
Mesolithic	middle era of the Stone Age
Neolithic	final era of the Stone Age
hunter gatherer	people who moved about hunting for animals and gathering berries and plants to eat
forage	gather food by searching for it in the wild
flint	type of stone which was widely used by Stone Age people - sharpened for use as a cutting tool
nomads	someone who does not have a permanent home
cave painting	pictures found on the walls of caves done by Stone Age people
archaeologist	someone who finds out about the past from evidence in the ground
BCE	before common era ('before the birth of Christ in the Christian calendar)
CE	common era (since the birth of Christ in the Christian calendar)



Palaeolithic Era	Mesolithic Era	Neolithic Era
2.5 million BCE – 10,000 BCE	10,000 BCE – 8,000 BCE	8,000 BCE – 3,000 BCE
Early Stone Age.	Mid Stone Age.	Late Stone Age.
Early humans were nomads. They did not settle in places for long.	By the start of this Era, the only humans left were homo sapiens - us - all the rest had become extinct.	
Early humans hunted food and gathered berries and ate edible plants.	People learned to use fire for heat, protection and to cook food.	Small family groups started settling in one place together.
They used stone and bone tools and weapons to hunt and kill animals.	Flint was sharpened and used for different tools such as axes and spears which meant they could kill bigger animals and fish.	Stone tools were still used but there was a wider range of them to help with farming.
Animals were used for food (flesh), clothes (skins), tools (bones) and jewellery (teeth).		Farming started as crops were grown from seeds and some animals were kept for milk.
They made paintings of animals and hands on cave walls.		

What animals lived during the Stone Age?

Some of the animals that lived in the Stone Age are still alive today.

Many of them though, became extinct due to mass hunting or changes in the climate. The ones below are ones that are not alive anymore.

sabre-tooth cat	giant ground sloth	glyptodon
giant bison	mammoth	Irish elk

There were also different types of humans that lived in the Stone Age:

Neanderthal	Homo Erectus	Homo Habilis	Denisovan