

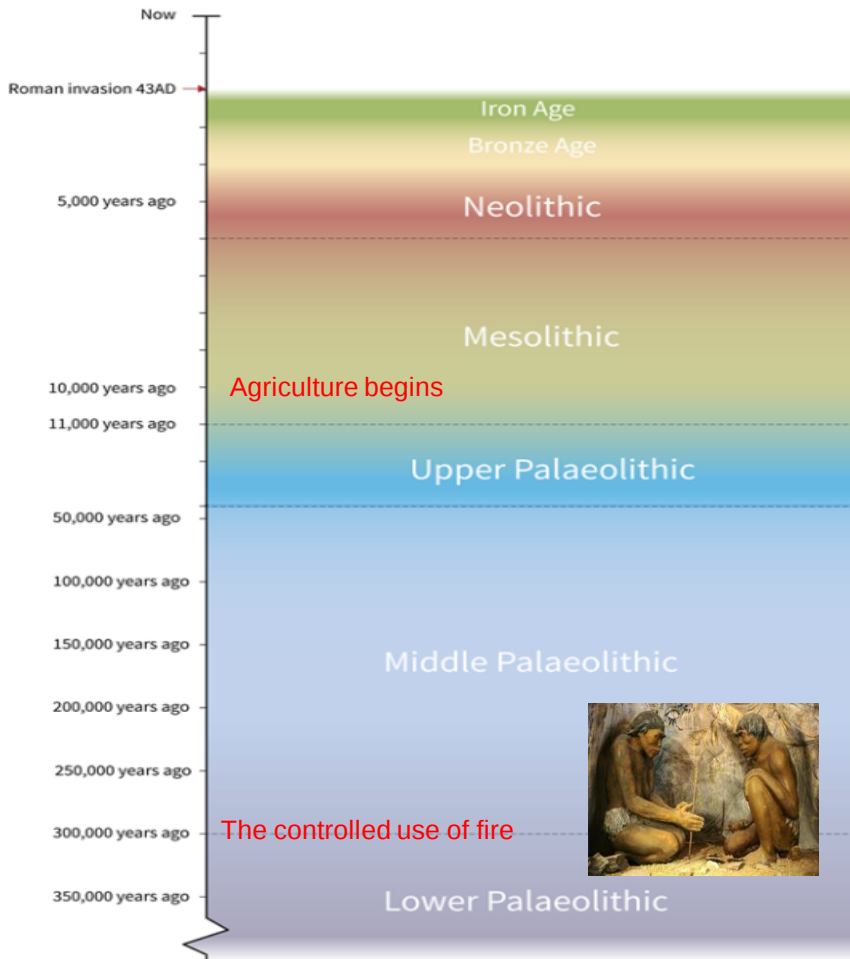
History Knowledge Organiser

Year 3

Autumn (i)

What are the achievements of Palaeolithic humans?

Substantive Knowledge - There are three periods of the Stone Age - The Neolithic (old), Mesolithic (middle) and Paleolithic (late) periods.
The chronology of Palaeolithic, Mesolithic and Neolithic early humans B.C.E.



Neolithic or New Stone Age

Around 4,500 - 2,400 BC

People begin to settle in villages. Homes are either rectangular in shape and made from wood and wattle and daub or round in shape and made from stone. Farming begins and crops, such as barley and wheat are grown. People start to domesticate horses. The building of Stonehenge begins. People learn how to weave to make clothes. Pottery is developed.

Mesolithic or Middle Stone Age

Around 10,000 BC

People live nomadic lives but might settle for several weeks in one place near a water supply, such as a river. Stone tools are still used but are polished, sharpened and adapted for use as spears and arrowheads. Homes are temporary shelters made from animal skins and wood.

Palaeolithic or New Stone Age

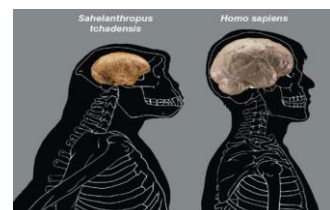
Around 3,000,000 BC

Homo habilis slowly develop into Homo sapiens (modern humans). Hunter-gatherers live off berries, nuts, fish and wild animals and some shelter from the cold in caves. They use simple stone tools and travel by foot to warmer places when food is scarce. Clothes are made from animal skins sewn together using needles made from animal bone. Cave paintings depict hunts and daily life. Humans discover how to make fire.

The Impact of the controlled use of fire



This allowed humans to sleep on the ground or in caves rather than in trees. The use of fire to cook food led to the evolution of large brains, bodies, small teeth and modern limb proportions.



The way of life of Early Humans

In the Paleolithic era, humans were nomads which meant that they travelled a lot. In the Mesolithic time they started to settle and grow crops. By the Neolithic era, they were hunters and farmers and settled in villages.



Evidence of The Stone Age in all Continents

Archaeologists have discovered petroglyphs on every continent except Antarctica.



Australia

Petroglyphs are rock engravings which convey messages through images.



Africa



North America



Asia



Europe

What Skara Brae tells us about life in prehistoric Scotland



Primary sources found in Skara Brae tell us how Neolithic people built their homes, the work they did, the tools they used and the food they ate. Tools, crop remains and bones found at Skara Brae show the villagers were skilled hunters and fishermen and expert farmers, too! They grew crops such as wheat and barley, and reared sheep, cattle and pigs. Since no weapons have been found at Skara Brae, historians believe it was home to a peaceful community. Archaeologists have discovered jewellery, needles, buttons, ornaments, well crafted pottery and dice, suggesting they were creative people who appreciated beauty – and enjoyed playing games too.

Portable Knowledge – What we need to remember

There are three periods of The Stone Age – The Neolithic (old), Mesolithic (middle) and Palaeolithic (late) periods.

Skara Brae is in Scotland and is one of the best preserved Neolithic Stone Age site in Europe. It tells historians about Stone Age life.

Core Vocabulary

Palaeolithic – Old Stone Age

Mesolithic – Middle Stone Age

Neolithic – New Stone Age

