

## Unit Title

# How has life in Britain changed?

### What should I know?

- Use a timeline to sequence events from British history
- Use evidence to explain why people in the past acted as they did.
- Use evidence of the past through using eyewitness accounts, books, photos, buildings
- Ask and answer questions such as, 'Was life different for people in Roman times?'
- Identify and recount details of Roman Times

### What should I know by the end of the unit?

- Understand the chronology of Pre-historic Britain
- 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'
- Know how Britain changed from the iron age to the end of the Roman occupation

## Key Knowledge

### What do we know about the Stone Age?

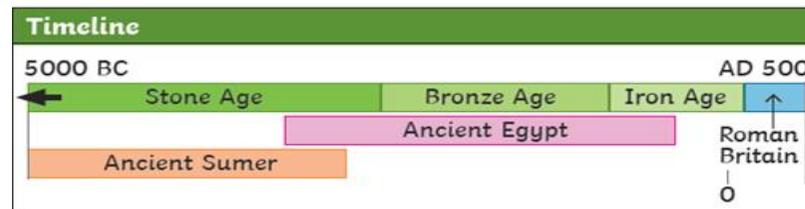
The Stone Age is named after the stone tools that the earliest humans used to help them survive. They used them to kill animals, such as mammoths, for their meat, **bone marrow** and skins. The bones were also useful for making tools, such as needles to sew skins together. People in the Stone Age moved around from place to place with the seasons, in order to keep safe and warm and to follow the animals they hunted.

### How did People live in Pre-historic Britain?

**Skara Brae** was discovered after a storm in AD 1850 removed the earth that had been covering it. It is a village of eight houses, linked by covered passageways. Not all of the houses were built at the same time. The later ones are slightly bigger but they have very similar features, such as a central fire-pit and stone shelves. The village tells us a lot about life in the late Stone Age, including what people ate and what sort of tools they used.

### How do we know religious rituals were important?

Stonehenge is a famous prehistoric monument in southern England, built at the end of the Stone Age and into the Bronze Age. Originally, it was just an earthwork and up to 150 people were buried there. The huge stones that we see were added in different stages. Some were brought from 240 miles away in Wales.



### Key Vocabulary

Stone Age  
Bronze Age  
Iron Age  
Archaeologist  
Pre-history  
Bone marrow  
Skara Brae  
Stonehenge  
Hunter gatherers  
Early farmers  
Hill Forts  
Druids

- Know how life has changed since pre-historic times

### Making Links - Remember when you....

- Learnt in the 'We are Britain' unit to identify some details from the past with regards to buildings and structures, using pictures.
- Learnt about the History of Caldicot Castle

## Key Changes and Events

3000 BC	The village of Skara Brae is built in Orkney. The people who live there are beginning to farm their own food and build homes instead of travelling from place to place.
	Construction starts on Stonehenge in Wiltshire. It will take around 1000 years for it to be finished.
2500 BC	'Bell Beaker' culture arrives in Britain. These people are named for their distinctive decorative pottery.
2100 BC	<b>Bronze</b> begins to be used in Britain to make weapons and tools.
1800 BC	The first large copper mines are dug.
1200 BC	'Celtic' culture begins to arrive in Britain and <b>tribal</b> kingdoms develop.
800 BC	<b>Iron</b> begins to be used in Britain to make tools and weapons, instead of <b>bronze</b> .
	The first hillforts are constructed.

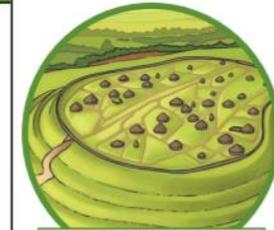
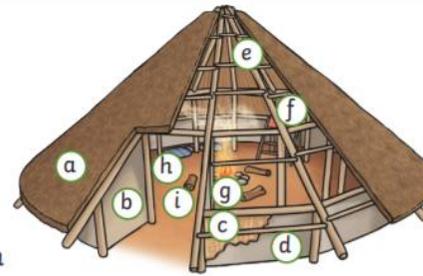
## Hill Forts

People in the **Bronze Age** and **Iron Age** lived in roundhouses. These could be very large and would have housed many people. One household might have had two houses, one for living and one for cooking and making things. In the **Iron Age**, these houses were sometimes rectangular and were often gathered in farming communities on hills. These were known as 'hillforts'.

Between 500 and 100 BC, many parts of Britain were dominated by hillforts. These settlements provided a home for hundreds, and later thousands, of people

### Roundhouses

- thick thatch
- door
- wattle
- daud
- timber frame
- upright loom
- hearth (fire)
- beds
- logs for sitting on



An **Iron Age** hillfort

## Druids

Druids were the priests of the tribes we call 'Celts'. Their job was to communicate with the more than 400 gods that the people of the tribes believed in. They believed the gods lived in nature. The main festivals were based around important times in the farming year. The Druids sacrificed food, precious objects and even humans to keep the gods happy. Druids were also like doctors and lawyers. They found cures in plants and resolved disagreements. Their opinions were more important than those of the king. It took at least 20 years to train to be a Druid.