

Stone Age Hunter Gatherers: 800,000 BC - 2,500 BC

Timeline		What was the Stone Age?	Key Vocabulary	
800,000 BC - 10,500 BC	Palaeolithic Stone Age (Old or Ancient Stone Age)	The Stone Age began when the first tools were made from stone and ended with the introduction of metal tools. At the end of the Ice Age, the sea levels rose and Britain turned into an island. Humans survived by using sharp stone tools to kill animals such as mammoths and sabre tooth tigers. Dead animals proved to be useful resources in the Stone Age because they provided food to eat and skins to keep warm. Bones and flint were other useful tools used at the time to make tools.	prehistoric	Before recorded history or writing systems.
10,500 BC - 4,000 BC	Mesolithic Stone Age (Middle Stone Age)		Neanderthal	Early human species that lived in caves to escape the cold.
4,000 BC - 2,500 BC	Neolithic Stone Age (New Stone Age)		BC	The years before the birth of Jesus Christ.



Why was Stonehenge so important?

Stonehenge is one of the world's most famous monuments. It stands on Salisbury Plain, in Wiltshire and can be seen from miles around. It is believed that people gathered there for religious ceremonies. Circles built from stone or wood played a very important part to the religious life of the British people. Stonehenge is one of the hundreds of stone circles found in Britain. Many experts believe Stonehenge was used for funerals. They suggest people carried the dead along the River Avon and then walked up the Stonehenge in a grand procession.

What else was going on in the World?

2500 BC	Pyramids at Giza built
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prehistoric	Before recorded history or writing systems.
Neanderthal	Early human species that lived in caves to escape the cold.
BC	The years before the birth of Jesus Christ.
AD	Anno Domini (Latin) is used to refer to the years after the birth of Jesus Christ.
Palaeolithic	The old stone age - a prehistoric period when stone tools were made by humans.
Mesolithic	Time between the Palaeolithic and Neolithic periods when humans used flint tools.
Neolithic	The new stone age - a period when humans learned to grow crops and tame animals.
flint	A shiny grey stone which, when broken, has a sharp edge that can be used as a knife.
forage	Hunt or gather food.
era	A period of time in history.
civilisation	A group of people with their own language and way of life.
archaeologist	Scientist who studies objects to find out about people of the past and how they lived.
monument	A large structure built to honour a person or event.
extinct	No longer exists.
procession	Moving forward in an orderly way, as part of an event.