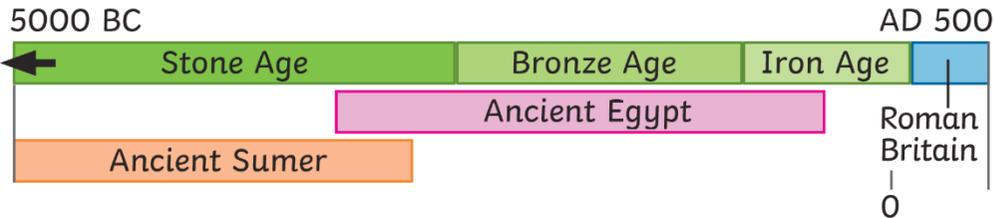


Who First lived in Britain?

Key Vocabulary

bronze	A metal alloy made from a mixture of copper and tin. It is a much harder and more long-lasting material than stone or copper alone.
Celt	A modern term for the people living in Europe during the Iron Age. The 'Celts' were made up of many different tribes.
tribe	A group of people, often related through family, culture and language, usually with one leader.
alloy	A metal made by combining two or more metals to improve its properties.
earthwork	A large bank or mound of soil that has been made on purpose.
iron	A metal that is stronger and harder than bronze.
Mesolithic	The period in the 'middle' Stone Age.
Neolithic	The period in the 'new' Stone Age.
Paleolithic	The period in the 'old' Stone Age.
sacrifice	To give something up, break it or kill it as an offering to a god or gods.

Timeline



Cave painting

Stone Age Life

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.

Hillforts

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.

Skara Brae, Orkney



Skara Brae

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 firepit 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.



Iron Age Hillfort