

## The Neolithic Age

The Neolithic Age, also called the New Stone Age, began around 4000 BCE in Britain and lasted for roughly 2,000 years. It was one of the most important periods in human history.

Before this time, people were hunter-gatherers. This meant they travelled constantly, hunting animals and collecting wild plants to eat. Life was tough and uncertain. Then, gradually, everything began to change.

People discovered how to farm. They cleared forests, prepared the soil and planted crops such as wheat and barley. They also domesticated animals, keeping cattle, sheep, pigs and goats for meat and milk. Because food could now be produced in one place, people no longer needed to roam. They settled down and built permanent villages with rectangular wooden or stone houses.

Neolithic people were skilled crafters. They made sharp tools by chipping and shaping flint, a hard type of stone. They also created clay pots for storing and cooking food.

Perhaps their most mysterious achievement was building enormous stone monuments, such as Stonehenge, which still stands today.

## Questions

1. What does "Neolithic" mean?
2. When did the Neolithic Age begin in Britain?
3. What is a hunter-gatherer?
4. Name two crops that Neolithic farmers grew.
5. Name two animals that Neolithic people kept.
6. Why did people stop travelling and settle in one place?
7. What were Neolithic houses made from?
8. What is flint, and what was it used for?
9. Name one famous monument built during the Neolithic Age.
10. Why do you think Neolithic people built stone monuments? What might they have been used for?



Text B Quiz



Read and Retrieve