

The Iron Age

A long, long time ago, people discovered they could make tools and weapons from a metal called iron. This time is called the Iron Age. It began in Britain about 3,000 years ago.

Before iron, people used bronze to make their tools. Iron was much harder and stronger, so it was better for farming and fighting.

People in the Iron Age lived in small villages. Their houses were round, with walls made from wood and mud, and roofs made from straw. We call these roundhouses.

Iron Age people were farmers. They grew crops like wheat and kept animals like cows, sheep and pigs.

They were also skilled at making things. They made pots, jewellery and beautiful patterns on metal. Some people were very important warriors too.

Questions

1. What metal did people from this period use to make tools and weapons?
2. What metal did people use before iron?
3. About how long ago did the Iron Age begin in Britain?
4. What shape were Iron Age houses?
5. What were the walls of Iron Age houses made from?
6. What were the roofs of Iron Age houses made from?
7. Name a crop that Iron Age people grew.
8. Name two animals that Iron Age people kept.
9. Name two things that Iron Age people made.
10. Why do you think iron was more useful to farmers than bronze?



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