

The Stone Age

The Stone Age was an enormous stretch of time that began around 3 million years ago and lasted until about 4,000 years ago in Britain. It is called the Stone Age because people made their tools and weapons from stone, bone and wood.

Historians divide the Stone Age into three parts. The Palaeolithic (Old Stone Age) was the longest period. People were nomads, which means they moved from place to place hunting animals such as woolly mammoths, reindeer and bison. They also gathered berries, nuts and roots to eat.

The Mesolithic (Middle Stone Age) began after the last Ice Age ended, around 10,000 years ago. The climate became warmer and forests grew across Britain. People still moved around but began to settle near rivers and coasts where food was easier to find.

The Neolithic (New Stone Age) was the most exciting period of change. People learned to farm, growing crops like wheat and keeping animals. They built the first permanent homes and created impressive monuments, including Stonehenge.

Questions

1. When did the Stone Age begin?
2. Why is it called the Stone Age?
3. What does the word "nomad" mean?
4. Name two animals that Palaeolithic people hunted.
5. What are the three parts the Stone Age is divided into?
6. When did the Mesolithic period begin and why did the climate change?
7. Where did Mesolithic people tend to settle?
8. What crop did Neolithic farmers grow?
9. Name a famous monument built during the Neolithic period.
10. Why do you think farming was such an important change for Stone Age people?



Text B Quiz



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