



History

Stone Age to Iron Age

Background information

- Skara Brae — Skara Brae is a stone-built Neolithic settlement, located on the Bay of Skail on the west coast of Mainland, the largest island in the Orkney archipelago of Scotland.
- Stonehenge — A prehistoric monument in Wiltshire, England. It consists of a ring of standing stones, with each standing stone around 13 feet high, 7 feet wide and weighing around 25 tons.
- Star Carr is a Mesolithic archaeological site in North Yorkshire.
- 800,000 BC Earliest footprints in Britain date back to this time.
- 40,000—8000 BC People started creating cave paintings
- 25,000 BC Ice Age in Northern Europe and Britain
- 12,000 BC Modern humans start living in Britain
- 8,500 BC Climate gets warmer in Britain
- 6,000 BC Britain becomes an island
- 4,000 BC Farming introduced in Britain
- 3,000 BC Stonehenge started to be built
- 3,000 BC Skara Brae first inhabited
- 2,300 BC Bronze working introduced
- 1,200 BC First hillforts built
- 800 BC Ironworking introduced
- 120 BC First coins introduced from Europe.
- 43 AD Romans invade Britain— start of Roman Britain and the end of the Iron Age

Knowledge and Understanding

To understand that Britain was once covered in ice.

To know that the earliest settlers were hunter-gatherers and lived in caves.

To consider how much life changed when man learned how to farm.

To learn more about the significance of Skara Brae, Star Carr and Stonehenge.

Enquiry skills and Key concepts

- To know how evidence is gathered about prehistoric Britain.
- To develop an understanding of the challenges faced by early humans and why tools were important.
- To draw inferences from archaeological finds.
- To look for evidence to learn about how people used to live in the Stone Age to Iron Age.

Key Vocabulary:

Stone Age - the name given to the earliest period of human culture when stone tools were first used.

Bronze Age - the time period when bronze replaced stone as the preferred materials for making tools and weapons.

Iron Age - the time period when iron became the preferred choice of metal for making tools.

Neolithic - the youngest part of the Stone Age. The word Neolithic comes from two words in Greek: "neo", meaning "new" and "lithic", meaning "stone". The Neolithic period is the time when farming was invented and when people started caring for animals, such as cows, sheep and pigs.

Forage - to look widely for nourishment or other provisions.

Thatched - a thatched house or a house with a thatched roof has a roof made of straw or reeds.

Prehistoric - the time before recorded history.

Monument - a group of huge stones, often set up in a line or circle.