Coley Primary School – Knowledge Organiser

SUBJECT FOCUS:	Stone Age to Iron Age	YEAR 4	TERM

WHAT? – Key Knowledge

Stone Age 10,000BC – 2300BC – tools were made of stone.
Bronze Age 2300BC – 800BC – tools were made of bronze.
Iron Age 800BC – 43AD – tools were made of iron.

The Stone Age is such a long period it is split into 3 parts: Palaeolithic, Mesolithic and Neolithic.

Prehistoric people first came to Britain by travelling over land. Britain was still joined on to Europe at that time.

Some Stone Age people lived in caves – this means that sometime people refer to them as 'cavemen' but this is not a term that is used by archaeologist and historians.

People have lived in Britain since the Stone Age we have found their remains.

There were changes in technology over prehistory – tools were made out of different materials stone, then bronze and then iron.

Humans changed from a hunter-gatherer way of life to farming. This change meant that people stopped living nomadically and started to live in permanent settlements and this meant that their houses changed too.

Prehistoric people began to bury their dead in 'barrows or mounds' during the Bronze and continuing into the Iron Age.

Prehistoric people built stone circles towards the end of the Stone Age and continued this practise through to the Iron Age. Some sites, such as Stonehenge, remained important for generations.

We can use archaeology to find out about prehistory.

WHAT? – Key vocabulary

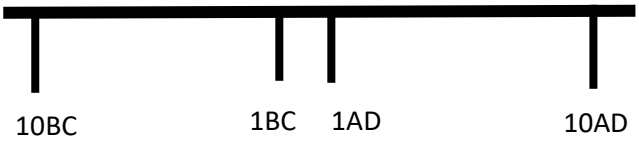
BC	**B**efore **C**hrist – measuring years in history **before** the birth of Jesus. Now often called Before Common Era (**BCE**)
AD	**A**nno **D**omini – measuring history **after** the birth of Jesus. Now often called Common Era (**CE**) in modern textbooks.
Prehistoric	The period of human history before written records.
Archaeology	The study of humans in the past from what they have left behind.
Hunter gatherer	A society that had to hunt and catch animals and forage for plants for food to eat.
Farming	Growing plants or keeping animals for food.
Nomadic	Moving from place to place.
Settled	Staying in one place.
Remains	What is left of the body after a person's death.

Key Places

Skara Brae	A Neolithic settlement on the Orkney Islands in Scotland.
Stonehenge	An historical site where burials began in the Bronze Age and massive stones were erected in circles all the way through to the Iron Age.
Great Orme	A Bronze Age copper mine in Wales. Copper is needed to make bronze.

Diagrams and Symbols

The year in history BC work like negative numbers. 1BC is next to 1AD. 10BC is longer ago than 1BC it is further from 1AD. There is no Year 0.



Diagrams and Symbols



Britain was part of the continent of Europe and became an island in the Stone Age

Evidence of Prehistoric Britain



Skara Brae in Orkney – a Stone Age settlement



Photo: John Burka



Stonehenge, Sailsbury

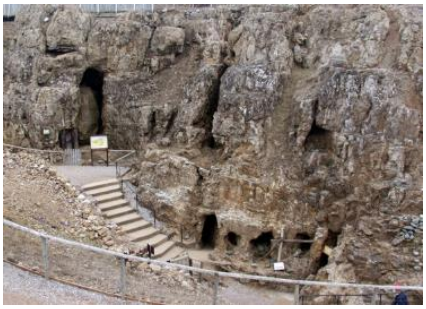
The Mold Cape. Found in Mold, Flintshire, Wales.

Dating from the Bronze Age





A Stone Age hand axe, found in Wiltshire.



Great Orme Bronze Age copper mine.

Possible Experiences

How did the first Stone Age people make it to Britain?

Find out about Cheddar Gorge and the Cheddar Gorge Man.

How can we find out about prehistoric people?

https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/class-clips-video/history-ks2-what-do-ancient-bones-tell-us-about-the-stone-age/zmfxpg8

Find out how homes changed from the Stone Age to the Iron Age and how farming contributed to this.

https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/class-clips-video/history-ks2-stone-age-farming-and-homes/z479wty

Find out about why the site of Stonehenge was so important to Bronze and Iron Age people and find out what barrows are.

Understand how tools changed from stone to bronze to iron. How were flints and metal mined and worked? Why change from one type to another?

https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/class-clips-video/history-ks2-discovering-stone-age-tools-made-of-flint/zjtjmfr

https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/class-clips-video/history-ks2-discovering-metalwork-in-bronze-age-Britain/zb8b47h

https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/class-clips-video/history-ks2-discovering-iron-in-iron-age-britain/zn3hf4j

Visit Stonehenge

https://www.dkfindout.com/uk/history/stone-age/