



What I should know already:

- ✓ Life existed before your grandparents were born.
- ✓ Millions of years ago, dinosaurs lived. Evidence of this was found by Mary Anning who discovered fossils.
- ✓ Climate is the general weather conditions that are typical of a region.

What will I know by the end of this topic?

- Pre-history refers to the time in the past before writing was used to record events.
- Pre-history in Britain is split up into 3 ages: Stone Age, Bronze Age and Iron Age.
- The Stone Age is split into three periods: the Palaeolithic, Mesolithic and Neolithic periods.
- The Stone Age began when tools were made from stone and ended with the introduction of metal tools.
- Humans survived by using sharp stone tools to kill animals.
- Dead animals provided food to eat and skins to keep warm. Their bones were used for making tools.
- Evidence of the Stone Age includes discoveries of: cave paintings, early tools such as flints, fire hearths, settlements such as Skara Brae.
- Man evolved over the Stone Age period.
- At the end of Palaeolithic Age, sea levels rose and Britain turned into an island.
- During the Neolithic Age, people began to settle down in one place.
- During the Bronze Age, people lived in permanent settlements, farmed the land and reared animals. They had small monuments: Round Burrows or Cairns to bury their dead. Stone circles may have been used for ceremonial purposes.
- During the Iron Age, the population grew.
- Pressure on land led to the country being divided up into territories. By the late Iron Age, there were named tribes.

Vital Vocabulary!

ancient	belonging to the very distant past and no longer in existence.
archaeologist	a person who studies prehistory through the analysis of artefacts.
artefact	an object made by a human being, of historical interest.
Bronze Age	a prehistoric period that followed the Stone Age, when weapons and tools were made of bronze rather than stone.
caves	a natural underground chamber in a hillside or cliff.
cave paintings	paintings created using natural dyes inside caves.
Celts	an ancient tribe.
circa	approximately
climate	the weather conditions prevailing in an area.
Druids	a priest in the ancient Celtic religion.
earthworks	a large artificial bank of soil, especially one used as a fortification.
farming	the activity of growing crops and raising livestock.
flint	a type of stone used to make tools.
hillfort	a fort built on a hill used by Iron Age people.
Homo Sapien	a human being.
Iron Age	a prehistoric period that followed the Bronze Age, when weapons and tools came to be made of iron.
Mesolithic	the middle Stone Age period.
Neanderthal	an extinct species of human that was widely distributed in ice-age Europe
Neolithic	the new Stone Age period.
Palaeolithic	the old Stone Age period.
settler/settlement	a person who moves with a group of others to live in a new area.
Skara Brae	a Neolithic village still in existence today.
Stonehenge	a famous prehistoric monument.
Star Carr	a Mesolithic archaeological site in North Yorkshire.

Historical Skills and Enquiry

- Explore what prehistory is and explain how historians find out about the past. Understand the terms BC and AD.
- Chronologically order the three stages of the Stone Age onto a time line. Sequence Iron Age and Bronze age within this timeline.
- Understand significant events of Palaeolithic, Mesolithic and Neolithic periods.
- Explain how Britain changed during the Palaeolithic period with reference to a changing coast line and human evolution.
- Compare how and why settlements changed from the Palaeolithic period to the Mesolithic period, making links to the effect of these.
- Explore and understand some aspects of change in Britain from the Mesolithic period to the Neolithic period, including an introduction of agriculture.
- Use evidence to reconstruct life and compare how aspects changed from the Stone Age to the Bronze Age to the Iron Age.
- Describe the features of the settlement of Skara Brae and changes in settlements and the effect of this.
- Study Stone Age artefacts, including cave paintings and tools, and explain what their uses were, building a picture of life in the period.
- Ask questions and find out the answers about the Stone Age, presenting understanding using evidence to support ideas.
- Understand the religious beliefs of the Iron Age.

