

...Prehistoric Life...

Millions of years before the first humans appeared, dinosaurs walked the Earth. Humans first arrived in Britain at least 900,000 years ago, a long time after the dinosaurs had died.

Prehistoric time, or prehistoric history is the time before there were written records. Human prehistory begins with humans appearing and ends when written records were first kept at the time of the Roman invasion in AD 43. AS there are no records from before that time, people use artefacts and cave art, as well as buildings and burial sites, to discover more about how prehistoric people lived.

...Bronze Age (2300 – 700BC)...

People started to make tools and weapons from bronze. Bronze was a harder and more durable metal than had been created before. It was used to make daggers, swords and spearheads, as well as chariots and armour. Gold was also used to create jewellery and luxury items. Most people lived in villages or on farms. As farms expanded, communities began to compete for space, leading to fights. Bronze Age villagers lived in round houses with a central fireplace and a roof of animal skin or thatch. They started to build fences around their villages to keep out enemies.

...Stone Age (450,000 – 2300BC)...

The Palaeolithic 450,000 – 10,000 BC

Early humans living in the Palaeolithic time used tools made from wood and bone. They also started using flaky stones, such as flint, to make sharp tools and spear tips. People lived in caves or makeshift wooden huts. A lot of the land was covered in ice at this time.

The Mesolithic 10,000 – 4500 BC

During the Mesolithic times, the ice began to melt, and the weather became warmer. Larger, flatter tools were made, such as harpoons. People began to live in one place for longer periods of time.

The Neolithic 4500 – 2300 BC

The Neolithic period, farming and keeping animals became part of life, so people stayed in one place for much of the time. They lived in small tribes or family groups in round, mud-brick houses sleeping on animal fur mats on the ground.

...TRIBAL TALES...

...Iron Age (700BC – AD43)...

People began using iron to make weapons and tools. Iron was cheaper, stronger and lighter than bronze. During this time, many Celtic people from Europe settles in Britain. People now lived in tribes and fought against each other for land and goods. Hill forts were built for defence. People lived inside the forts and warriors defended them against enemy attack.

The Iron Age ended in AD 43 when the Romans invaded and settled in Britain.

...Stonehenge...

Stonehenge is a prehistoric monument in Wiltshire, England, which was built about 3500 years ago. It is made up of standing stones and huge, stone arches. A circular ditch and bank around the stones were built about 5000 years ago. Nobody knows when Stonehenge was built. The stones came from different locations and would have been very difficult to move. Some historians think it was an ancient burial ground or memorial to remember the dead.

