

SOCIAL STUDIES / HISTORY · YEAR 3 / GRADE 2

# Knowledge Organiser: The Stone Age

Y3 history (Stone Age to Iron Age)

## How to use this organiser

Print at the start of the topic. Children should know everything on this page by the end. Refer to it in every lesson, quiz children regularly, send a copy home.

## THE THREE STONE AGES

Period	When	How people lived
Palaeolithic (Old Stone Age)	From ~3 million years ago to ~12,000 years ago	Hunter-gatherers. Lived in caves and small camps. Followed animals. Used simple stone tools.
Mesolithic (Middle Stone Age)	~12,000 to ~6,000 years ago	Still hunter-gatherers but with finer tools — bows and arrows, harpoons, fishing nets. Britain became an island around 6,500 BC.
Neolithic (New Stone Age)	~6,000 to ~4,500 years ago	Farming begins. People settle. They build villages, make pottery, weave cloth, raise animals. Stonehenge built.

## KEY VOCABULARY

Word	Meaning
Stone Age	The very long period when people made tools mostly from stone, bone and wood



Word	Meaning
Hunter-gatherer	A person who lives by hunting animals and gathering wild plants — not farming
Tribe	A group of people who live together and share family ties
Nomad	A person who moves from place to place, not settling permanently
Settlement	A place where people stay and build homes
Tool	An object made to do a job — Stone Age tools were made of stone, bone or antler
Flint	A hard stone that breaks into sharp edges — used for tools and weapons
Spear	A long pointed weapon for hunting
Cave painting	A picture painted on the wall of a cave — earliest art we know
Henge	A circular monument with banks and stones — like Stonehenge
Archaeologist	A scientist who studies the past by digging up and examining objects
Domesticated	When wild animals or plants are tamed by humans (e.g. wolves became dogs)

## KEY PLACES AND DISCOVERIES

Place	Why it matters
Skara Brae (Scotland)	Neolithic village preserved by sand. Shows what Stone Age homes were really like — stone furniture, hearths, drainage
Stonehenge (Wiltshire)	World-famous Neolithic stone circle. Built around 2500 BC. Aligned with sunrise and sunset on midsummer/midwinter
Cheddar Gorge (Somerset)	Where Britain's oldest complete human skeleton (Cheddar Man, 9,000 years old) was found



Place	Why it matters
Lascaux (France)	Caves containing some of the world's most famous Stone Age cave paintings (~17,000 years old)
Star Carr (Yorkshire)	Early Mesolithic site showing Stone Age people lived here and worked with antler and wood

**BIG IDEAS**

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**QUESTIONS TO ANSWER BY THE END**

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