



Key Vocabulary	
Archaeology	Technique used by historians where they dig up sites and look at evidence they find there.
Prehistoric	The time before there were any written records of what life was like.
B.C.	Before Christ. A date such as 3000BC means 3000 years before the year 1 AD.
A.D.	Anno Domini in Latin, meaning “in the year of the Lord”.
Homo Sapiens	Our ancient ancestors that arrived around 30,000BC.
Trade	The buying and selling of goods.
Long barrows	Large tombs where Stone Age people buried their dead. They built huge stone circles for ceremonies.
Hill forts	Where many Iron Age people lived to protect themselves from enemy attacks. Families lived inside hill forts in round houses that had a pointed thatched roof and walls made out of wattle and daub (mud and twigs).
Druids	Priests that led religious ceremonies. They sacrificed animals and humans!

Stone Age

- Early Stone Age people lived in caves or very simple shelters. They made stone tools and survived by hunting and fishing.
- During the Middle Stone Age (8000BC to 4500BC), Britain was linked to Europe by a strip of land. People in Britain began to set up camps along the British coast and on river banks.
- Britain became an island at the start of the Late Stone Age (4000BC to 2500BC). People began to farm.
- Flint, antler and bone were used to make tools, and people began making clay pots.



Bronze Age

- Britons learned to work with copper, tin, gold, and bronze (metals that can be mined)
- Trading ships travelled to mainland Europe carrying copper, tin and precious objects made by metal-workers.
- Some settlers who arrived belonged to the Beaker culture. Beaker people lived in clans led by powerful chiefs. They made pottery and metal, held religious ceremonies at stone circles, and buried their dead in circular graves.
- On Dartmoor there is evidence of cists, which were burial tombs from the early Bronze age.



Iron Age

- People learnt to use iron around 800BC. Farming flourished and the British population grew very fast.
- It was a very violent time. People lived in clans that belonged to tribes. Tribes fought against each other, led by warrior kings.
- Iron Age farmers grew crops and vegetables. They kept geese, goats and pigs and had large herds of cows and flocks of sheep.
- People worked as potters, carpenters and metalworkers. Men and boys trained as warriors.

