The Stone Age

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Stone Age People

• The Stone Age began about 2.5 million years ago.

• Stone age hunter gatherers had to catch or find everything they ate.

• They had to move from place to place searching for food.

• People lived in caves at the start of the stone age but then they started to make other kinds of shelter.
Surviving in the Stone Age

• Early humans made tools out of stone.

• They used these tools to hunt animals and cut the meat.

• They would hunt large animals for many days until it was very tired, then they would kill it with a spear.

• They were also hunter-gatherers and collected food.
Stone tools

• Stone age people used sharp stone called flint.
• They sharpened the flint by knocking another stone against it. This is called **knapping**.
• After knapping the tool would be smoothed by grinding it with stone.

• **Handaxe** – was used for cutting
• **Borer** – was used for shaping
• **Hammerstone** – was used for bashing and hammering
Cave paintings

- Caves were important places for Stone Age people.
- People showed their thoughts by drawing on cave walls.
- The drawings took lots of skill.
- Paintings were done in the dim light of fires.

They made paints by burning animal fat and mixing in ground up charcoal and coloured stones.
Clothing

• Stone Age people wore clothes mainly made from animal skin.
• They used animal bones to pin them together.
• When they started to weave clothes, they would made cloaks from flax and grass stems.
Stone circles

• Stone Age people made stone circles as spiritual places for people to meet and for burying people.
• The circles were used as a place to remember the dead.
• Stone circles have only been found in Britain.

Casterligg - The oldest stone circle is found here. It is made up of 40 stones, and the heaviest one weighs 16 tonnes.
Stone Age animals

**Woolly mammoth** – It was about the same size as an African elephant. Early humans used their bones for tools and hunted them for food.

**Woolly rhinoceros** – It had thick woolly fur to keep it warm.

**Saber-toothed cat** – It had long, sharp canine teeth that could be up to 12 inches long.