

Knowledge Organiser

Year Group	Subject	Topic
3	Humanities	Stone Age compared to Ancient Egypt

The Big Picture

The Stone Age

The period of prehistory in Britain generally refers to the time before written records began. It begins when the earliest hunter-gatherers came to Britain from Europe around 450,000 BC and ends with the invasion of the Romans in AD 43.

The term 'Stone Age' refers to a very long period of time that we can break up into three sections. In the early Stone Age, which we call the Palaeolithic, people were hunters and they found food by roaming from place to place in different seasons.

The middle Stone Age, called the Mesolithic, began at a time when sea levels rose and Britain became an island. During the Mesolithic period, tools were developed to become smaller and finer. The invention of canoes meant that people were better able to hunt for fish as well as animals.

In the late Stone Age, which is called the Neolithic, the way people lived changed a lot because they began to settle into farming villages instead of moving from place to place. People started to look after animals and grow their own crops.

Ancient Egypt

About 5,000 years ago, the civilization of ancient Egypt began in the Nile River valley of northeastern Africa. Ancient Egypt was one of the world's first civilizations. It is also one of the most famous civilizations in history. The ancient Egyptians built huge pyramids, temples, palaces, and tombs. Their paintings and carvings are among the most splendid ever created. They also produced art with simple scenes of everyday life, work, and play that shows many details of their lives.

During this unit, we will learn the key aspects of both periods of History and make a comparison between the way of life of both Stone Age people and the Ancient Egyptians.

Enquiry Question

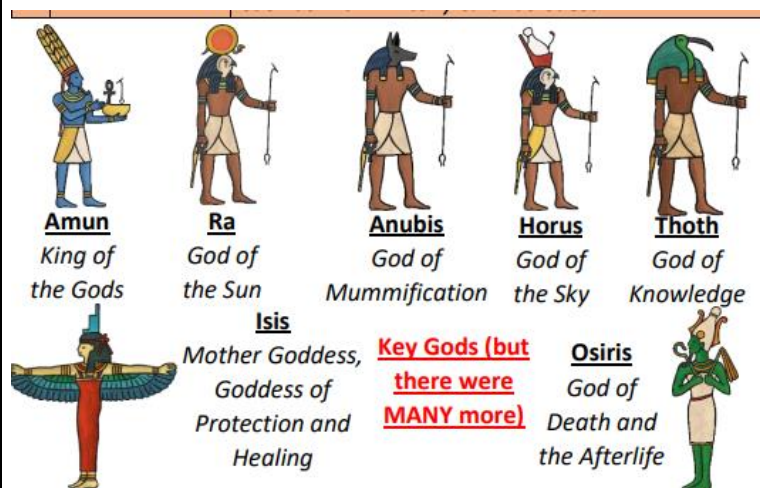
What are the main differences between how the people in Stone Age times lived compared to the Ancient Egyptians?

Key Vocabulary

Chronology	The arrangement of dates or events in the order in which they occurred.
BC	Before Christ. A way of dating years before the birth of Jesus. The bigger the number BC, the longer ago in history it was.
AD	Anno Domini – "in the year of our Lord". AD is used to show dates after the birth of Jesus.
Archaeology	The study of the buildings, graves, tools and other objects that belonged to people who lived in the past, in order to learn about their culture and society.
Hunter-gatherers	People who found food from their local environment and then moved from site to site depending on the season. They moved wherever they needed to get food from.

Farmers	The Neolithic or new Stone Age saw the beginnings of agriculture. Animals such as the cow and sheep were domesticated and provided a ready supply of meat, milk, wool, leather and bone. Grain was the first food that could be stored for long periods of time.
Flint	A type of stone that can be shaped into blades, knives and spears for hunting.
Monument	Something built to remember an important person or event.
Settlement	A place where a group of people live together in many buildings.
Afterlife	The place where Egyptians believed they would go after they died.
Akhet	The season of the year when the Nile river flooded. A very important time of year in the desert!
Canopic Jars	Special jars that held the organs of a mummy including the lungs, intestines, liver and stomach
Dynasty	A period of rule when a series of Pharaohs all came from the same family.
Egyptologist	An archaeologist who focusses Ancient Egypt. Howard Carter discovered Tutankhamun's tomb.
Hieroglyphics	A type of writing that used a combination of pictures and symbols
Mummification	The process of preserving a body after death in preparation for the afterlife.
Papyrus	A plant that grew on the banks of the Nile. It was used as an early version of paper.
Pharaoh	The supreme ruler of all of Ancient Egypt.
Sarcophagus	A large stone box that held a mummy's coffin. Often richly decorated for Pharaohs.

Important Dates – Stone Age	
10,000 BC	End of the last Ice Age
10, 000 BC – 2300 BC	Stone Age Palaeolithic to 10,000 BC Mesolithic to 4000 BC Neolithic to 2300 BC
4000 BC	Adoption of agriculture
3000 BC	Stonehenge started and Skara Brae built
2300 BC	Bronze working introduced
2300 BC – 800 BC	Bronze Age
1600 BC	Stonehenge abandoned
800 BC	Ironworking introduced
800 BC – AD 43	Iron Age
Important Dates – Ancient Egypt	
2600-2100 BC	Old Kingdom
2000-1650 BC	Middle Kingdom
1540-1075 BC	New Kingdom
7500 BC	New settlers in Nile Valley
3500 BC	First use of hieroglyphic symbols
2650 BC	First pyramid built
2550 BC	Pyramids of Giza built
1336 BC	Tutankhamun becomes Pharaoh
1279 BC	Rameses II becomes Pharaoh



5. Stone Age - Mesolithic Life and Neolithic Life

