



Year 6 | History | Autumn 1 | Stone Age



Key Learning

The Stone Age is the name given to the earliest period of human culture – from the dawn of civilisation 2.5 million years ago, to around 5000 years ago, when humans began utilising stone to make tools and objects. The Stone Age is often divided into three periods:

Paleolithic (Old Stone Age); Mesolithic (Mid Stone Age); Neolithic (New Stone Age)



Stone Age Animals



During the Stone Age, many animals lived that are now extinct, including **woolly mammoths**, **sabre-toothed cats** and **giant ground sloths**. These animals were specially adapted to their environments and were often much larger than similar animals today.

Vocabulary

Neolithic – the later part of the Stone Age, when people began farming and living in settled communities.

Mesolithic – the middle part of the Stone Age, between the Palaeolithic and Neolithic periods.

Palaeolithic – the earliest and longest part of the Stone Age, when people lived as hunter-gatherers.

Homo erectus – an early human species that walked upright and used simple tools.

Neanderthal – an extinct type of early human that lived in Europe and parts of Asia.

Homo sapiens – the scientific name for modern humans.

Caveman – an informal term for prehistoric humans; not all prehistoric people lived in caves.

Prehistoric – from the time before written records began.

