

**Stone Age to Iron Age**

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| **Key Dates & Events** | | |
| Stone Age | 12,000 BC | Modern humans start living in Britain |
| 6,000 BC | Britain becomes an island |
| 4,000 BC | Farming introduced to Britain |
| 3,000 BC | The village of Skara Brae is first inhabited. |
|  | Stonehenge construction begins |
| Bronze Age | 2300 BC | Bronze begins to be used in Britain to make weapons and tools. |
| 1200 BC | The first hillforts are built. |
| Iron Age | 800 BC | Iron begins to be used in Britain to make tools and weapons, instead of bronze. |
| AD 43 | The Romans invade Britain. |

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| **Stonehenge** |
| A prehistoric monument in Wiltshire, England. It consists of a ring of standing stones, with each standing stone around 4 metres high. Its purpose and how it was built remains uncertain. |

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| **Hillforts** |
| People in the Bronze Age and Iron Age lived in roundhouses which could be very large and house many people  In the Iron Age, these houses were sometimes rectangular and were often gathered in farming communities on hills. These were known as ‘hillforts’. |

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| **Key Vocabulary** | |
| AD | AD is used to show dates after the birth of Jesus. This year is AD 2019. |
| BC | BC is a way of dating years before the birth of Jesus. The bigger the number BC, the longer ago in history is was. |
| bronze | A metal alloy made from a mixture of copper and tin. It is a much harder and more long-lasting material than stone or copper alone. |
| bone marrow | The substance inside bones, which is high in fat and a good energy source. |
| hillfort | A fort built on a hill with outer walls or ditches for defensive purposes (for example Maiden Castle) |
| hunter gatherer | A member of a nomadic group who hunt or harvest food that grows in the wild |
| iron | A metal that is stronger and harder than bronze. |
| Nomadic people | A group of people that move from place to place in search of food and shelter |
| roundhouse | A circular house with thatched roof built from the Bronze  Age to Iron Age |
| sacrifice | To give something up, break it or kill it as an offering to a god or gods. |
| tribe | A group of families or communities that share a common culture and language, usually with one leader |

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| **Roundhouses** |
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| **Cave Paintings** |
| Early humans may have used art as a way of helping themselves in their struggle for survival. Paintings of animals on cave walls are common. The famous cave paintings at Lascaux in southwest France are about 18,000 years old. |