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| **Knowledge organiser for Year 3 – Stone Age –** How did Britain change from the Stone Age into the Iron Age?  **Curriculum Statement:** Pupils should be taught changes in Britain from the Stone Age to the Iron Age  **Overall enquiry question:** How did Britain change from the Stone Age into the Iron Age?  **Links to prior learning**: Chronology  **Links to locality:**  **Core knowledge in bold**  **New learning 23-24** | | | | Disciplinary Concepts to be taught:   * Significance * Continuity and change * Cause and consequence * Similarity and difference | |
| **Overarching questions** | **Questions for monitoring** | **Knowledge** | | | **Vocab** |
| What was the Stone Age, where does it fit in Britain’s History and how do we know?  Explain what life was like in the Stone Age  Identify key features of historical periods | **What was the Stone Age?**  **When was the Stone Age?**  **What does prehistoric mean?**  How long has man lived in Britain?  What does the Neolithic period mean?  What came after the Stone Age?  How do we know all this?  What can we work out about the Stone Age from historic artefacts? | * Prehistoric means history that comes before man could write so there are no written records. * The earliest evidence of humans anywhere in the world have been found in Africa, from 4 million years ago. * Man has lived in Britain for hundreds of thousands of years. Nobody knows exactly how long but the earliest evidence of man in Britain is 900,000 years old! It shows they used tools made from stone, wood and bone from 800,000 years ago. * **The Stone Age was a period of history where man used stone to make tools.** * The Stone Age lasted millions of years. The first evidence of stones being used as tools in Britain is from 800,000 years ago but, due to several periods where it was too cold for people to live in Britain. This means the stone age lasted from * Because the Stone Age cover such a long period of time, we break it down into three parts – The old Stone Age (palaeolithic age), middle Stone Age (Mesolithic) and new Stone Age (neolithic). * When we talk about the Stone Age now, we are mostly talking about the last part of it from **15,000 to 3,000 years BC. This is part of the neolithic period.** * At the start of the Stone Age, man was nomadic (moved around) and lived in tents (or sometimes caves). However, during the Neolithic period man started to move out of tents and settle in villages and begin farming in around 4,000 BC. * The Bronze Age ended the Stone Age and started when man started to use metals to make things for the first time. This was around 3,000 BC. Next came the Iron Age when man upgraded to using Iron as it was easier to knock in to shape. This was around 800BC, and this period includes the Celtic warriors in Britain. The prehistoric period (and Iron Age) ended when the Romans arrived in AD43 and conquered Britain. * **Prehistoric means history before written records were made.** Prehistoric people left no written records, so Archaeologists work like detectives looking for evidence. They use this evidence to build up a picture of the past: * The remains of homes and temples show how people lived and worshipped. * Tools and weapons give clues about the way people worked and fought. * Bumps and ridges in the landscape show the layout of ancient villages, fields and forts. * Some of the best evidence comes from human remains. Skeletons have been found buried with their possessions and a few bodies have been preserved in bogs. * By examining human remains, experts can work out when a person lived. Sometimes they can even suggest what they looked like! * Cave paintings are incredibly helpful in helping us understand the Stone Age. | | | Prehistoric, neolithic, Mesolithic, Palaeolithic, archaeologists, Stone Age, Bronze Age, Iron Age. |
| How different was life in the Stone Age when man started to farm?  Explain what life was like in the Stone Age  Sequence events or artefacts on a timeline  Identify key features of historical periods  Continuity and change | What caused Stone Age people to start farming? When did man start farming?  How did this change life in the Neolithic Stone Age period from life in the Mesolithic and palaeolithic periods?  How did this change what people ate?  How did this change where people lived?  How did this change what people wore? | * In the palaeolithic period, Stone Age man was a hunter-gatherer, they moved around to find food. They would hunt, fish and collect fruit, berries, beans and honey until it was all gone. Then move to a new area to find more. They were reliant on their hunting and gathering for food, tools and clothing. When they hunted, they used the antlers and bones to make tools, sinews to make thread, skins to make clothes and meat for food. They also used the bones to make tent structures and skins to cover the tents. * By the Mesolithic period, a lot of large animals that Stone Aged people had hunted, such as woolly mammoths, cave lions and aurochs, had become extinct. They could however still hunt smaller animals like boar, horses and deer but starting to farm, meant that they didn’t have to keep moving on when the animals left or had been hunted too much as they could breed their own animals. * Neolithic farmers kept and fed sheep, pigs, goats and cattle in enclosed areas. They also grew cereals like wheats and barleys. They used oxen to plough and began to make pots. They continued to hunt and fish and gather but they weren’t reliant on hunting and gathering anymore. This meant they could settle in one place. They also had access to milk (which they used to make cheese) for the first time and wheat to make their own bread so they had a wider range of food sources. * Not having to move around meant that neolithic Stone Age people could make settlements instead of living in tents. They started to make homes out of wood and natural materials. Often the walls were made with wattle and daub. This is a building method where woven branches are covered with a mixture of mud and manure. The roofs of Neolithic homes were often thatched but sometimes they were also covered in turf and animal skins. Evidence has also been found of roof tiles being used. In some areas, homes were built from stones rather than with timber frames and wattle and daub walls. * In the Mesolithic period, people mostly wore clothes made from animals’ skins and sinews. Once they started farming in the neolithic period, they could make thread from flax (a type of plant) to sew clothes together. They still wore animal skins but began to learn how to weave wool as well using a loom. * Throughout the Stone Age they continued to use stone tools because they had not yet discovered anything else! | | | Mesolithic, neolithic, wattle & daub, sinew, hunter-gatherer, aurochs, flax, weave, loom, settlement. |
| What can we learn about life in the Stone Age from a study of Skara Brae?  Explain what life was like in the Stone Age  Sequence events or artefacts on a timeline  Identify key features of historical periods  Significance | What was Skara Brae?  Where is Skara Brae located?  When does Skara Brae date from?  **What does Skara Brae teach us about Stone Age settlements and life in the Stone Age?** | * Skara Brae is an ancient Stone Age settlement that has been preserved beneath the sand. It is so well preserved; we can even see the furniture within the houses. It is the best evidence of Stone Age remains anywhere in Europe. * It is located in Orkney, an island in Scotland. It was discovered in 1850 and was fully excavated from 1928 to 1930. * Radiocarbon dating (in the 1970s) shows that Skara Brae was an inhabited settlement between 3,180BC and 2500BC. * **It shows us that the houses were sometimes made of stone and were connected by large mounds of midden (household rubbish) with linked covered passages. The houses were partly below ground (for stability and insulation) and there were no windows. Each house had one room about 36-40 m2 (some were larger than others) with a storage dresser, two beds, a central hearth (for heat and cooking) and small tanks. All furniture was made out of stone. The roof was likely thatched and may have used whale bone. The midden (waste pile\_ connected the houses and insulated them.** * **In this settlement there were 9 houses and about 50 people living in them.** * **Seed grains in the midden (waste tip) tell us that they grew barley.** * **Fish bones and shells in the midden, tell us they fished and ate seafood.** * **Gaming dice tell us they played games.** * **Hand tools, pottery and jewellery (necklaces, beads, pendants and pins) tell us they liked to create beautiful things which were richly decorated.** * **Carved stone objects suggest they held religious ceremonies.** * **Animal skins for blankets and heather or straw mattress were used as bedding.** * **No weapons in this settlement suggest they lived a peaceful life.** * **Cattle, sheep, pigs, crops, deer and seafood like crabs in the midden tell us what they ate and that they farmed.** * The fact that the houses were left full of prized possessions, suggest that the people left quickly in around 2,500 BC possibly due to a sand storm. * One of the houses was possibly use to house slaves. | | | Preserved, inhabited, radio carbon, dating, excavated, midden, hearth, settlement. |
| Why is it so difficult to work out why Stonehenge was built?  Describe changes in life in Britain from Stone Age to the Iron Age  Significance | What came after the Stone Age? What was the Bronze Age?  **What was life like in the Bronze Age?**  What is Stonehenge?  Where is it located?  How was it built?  What was it for?  What clues are there about its purpose? | * The Bronze Age began in approximately 3,000 to 2,500BC and lasted until around 800BC when the Iron Age began. The Bronze Age started at different times in different countries. As people travelled, the knowledge of how to mix copper and tin to make bronze was brought with them. Not all parts of the world had copper and tin available. Bronze was already being used in other parts of the world before it was brought to Britain around 2100 BC. * **During the Bronze Age, tools began to be made from Bronze. Bronze was an alloy made from copper and tin. An alloy is a metal made by combining two or more metals to improve its properties. Copper is a soft metal, but when it is melted and added to tin the result (bronze) is a much harder and durable material than copper or stone. It was used for tools, weapons and armour as well as building materials like decorative tiles.** * **Farming was more common in the Bronze Age. People used more wool in their clothing and often had one house for sleeping and living in and one for farming and preparing food. People moved into the valleys to farm. They lived in settlements of round houses made from wattle and daub and thatched roofs. The climate was wetter than during the Stone Age.** * Stonehenge is a series of granite structures built in a circle in the middle of an area of grass in Salisbury in Wiltshire. * It is believed to date from 2,500 BC (during the Bronze Age). This was the same time as the Pyramids were being built in Ancient Egypt. It was begun in around 3,000 BC but changes continued to be made to it until around 1,500BC * It is made of rocks that weigh up to 45 tonnes each but was believed to have been moved and constructed by teams of men who used ropes to leave the granite pieces upwards. It is made of out outer circle of 30 upward granite pieces, with horizontal pieces (lintels) bridging them and connecting them to form a circle. Inside, 10 vertical granite pieces, arranged in pairs with a horizontal piece connecting each pair, make a smaller circle. Between these two circles is a circle of smaller stones called ‘bluestones’. There is also one of these outside the circles called the ‘heel stone’. It was shaped by hand using hammers and chisels. Some of the stones came from Wales. To get them to Stonehenge, they would have had to float them along rivers and then drag them with ropes, men and oxen. * People believe different things about why it was there including: * As a holy place where people would come to worship * As a calendar, used to calculate dates used for farming. * As a healing place * As a burial place for an important person. * Evidence: * It lines up with the sun on the summer and winter solstices which has led people to believe it was a type of calendar, perhaps used by farmers to plan their year. * Bones have been found buried suggesting people may have gone for healing. | | | Alloy, Bronze Age, round houses, wattle and daub, thatched, lintels, solstice, |
| How much did life really change in the Iron Age and how do we know?  Describe changes in life in Britain from Stone Age to the Iron Age  Identify key features of historical periods.  Compare and contrast aspects of life in different periods.  Significance | When was the Iron Age?  **What does Danebury hill fort teach us about the Iron Age?**  How different was life in the Iron Age to life in the Bronze Age? | * The Iron Age in Britain began around 750-800BC after the Bronze Age and lasted until Roman Britain in AD 43. * They often lived in forts with ramparts surrounding the settlement for defence. * Danebury Hill for was believed to have been built around 500 years BC and lived in for around 400 years to 100AD. It was a farming community. * **Excavations of Danebury Hill Fort show that within the fort there was evidence of 73 roundhouses, 500 rectangular** buildings and thousands of deep storage pits. The circular houses were for people, the store buildings and pits held their most valuable commodity grain. The pits were dug from the chalk. The pits were filled with grain and then sealed.​ Artefacts that were found teach us about life in an Iron Age village, including: * Weaving tools and combs were found, showing that they weaved and wore wool. * Gateways and boundary fences (ramparts) were found showing that it was a fort and required defences. * Round houses * Religious figures/headdresses of animals on poles were found at the highest point on a slope showing that they held pagan beliefs. They made offerings to the gods and believed the Gods were in all natural things. * Cattle carcases which showed they pulled heavy loads. * Ploughs (or ards) * Domestic pets were kept. * Mined chalk. * Grinding tools show that they ground grain. * Crop circles and crop storage barns show crops were planted. * Leather needles were found which showed they made leather goods. * Pottery and cooking pots were found which shows they cooked. * Weapons (and skulls with spear wounds) were found which showed that violence and attack were possible. Pits full of body parts were also found after battles. Weapons included sling shots, javelins, spears and swords. * Fint mined a long way away and other natural materials not found in the area were founds, showing that they traded. * It had limited natural resources but possessed iron, tin, copper, salt and stones so must have been traded for things the Danebury people had, such as wool. | | | Iron Age, ramparts, forts, weaving, pagan, ards, natural resources |
| How did life in Britain change from the Stone Age through the Bronze Age and into the Iron Age?  Sequence events or artefacts on a timeline  Identify key features of historical periods.  Compare and contrast aspects of life in different periods.  Describe changes in life in Britain from Stone Age to the Iron Age  *In this lesson, create a timeline of the period and a piece of writing explaining the changes in key aspect of life through these three periods, during on learning over the unit.*  Similarity and difference | When was the Stone Age, Bronze Age and Iron Age?  How did tools change during this time?  How did houses change during this time?  **How did farming change during this time?**  How did food change during this time?  How did clothing change during this time?  What stayed the same? | * Tools – During the palaeolithic Stone Age, they used hand axes and tools made from stone. In the neolithic Stone Age they still used stone tools but also had bows and arrows. In the Bronze Age, tools were sharper and more precise, and weapons could be made from bronze. In the Iron Age, they got even sharper. As a result, weapons expanded to include spears, swords and javelins. * Homes – During the palaeolithic period people were nomadic and lived in tents and sometimes caves, then in the neolithic Stone Age they moved in to rectangular houses with timber frames and wattle and dab. Although sometimes these were made of stone (Skara Brae). They sometimes had thatched roofs but often had animal skins. They were often built on hills. One room did everything. Homes in the Bronze Age were round houses and usually located in valleys rather than on hills (due to the rainy climate). They were often built in settlements. They were still made from wattle and daub but often they had one building for living and sleeping in and one for farming and cooking. They had thatched roofs covered in in turf. Iron Age homes were often built on hills with forts around them for defences. They sometimes had a clay oven for baking bread. They were made of timber frames with wattle and daub and a thatched roof. They often had other buildings for grain storage etc. They were often still round. In all periods, the houses had a hearth at the centre to keep the house warm. * **Food and farming – During the Palaeolithic Stone Age people were hunter gatherers and mostly hunted, fished and collected fruits, berries and seeds then moved on. Then in the neolithic Stone Age they began to farm meat and cereal. They also built enclosed areas to keep farm animals like goats, sheep and cattle and domesticated animals for farming for the first time. Food was easier to produce in the Bronze Age and so the population grew. Tools in the Bronze Age were sharper making cutting grains and meats easier. They ate meat from sheep, pigs, goats and cattle. They also still fished and gathered nuts, seeds and berries. They made bread from the wheat they grew. People in the Bronze Age still sometimes hunted wild animals. By the Iron Age, sharper, better Iron tools meant that farming became more efficient so less hunting and gathering was done. By the Iron Age, horses had also been domesticated but they were not used to carry out farm work, such as pulling ploughs, until much later. Oxen continued to do this job during the Iron Age. Farming areas expended as more fields were created.** * Clothes – in the palaeolithic Stone Age they wore animal fur and skins. In the neolithic Stone Age they began to weave cloth. During the Bronze Age, looms were available, and they had a lot of wool available for clothing. During the Iron Age, Celtic people were reported to have worn close-fitting trousers with a long linen or woolen tunic that was tied with a belt. Fabrics were dyed different colours. Checked and striped patterns, a little like tartan, were often used. | | | Palaeolithic, neolithic, Stone Age, Bronze Age, Iron Age, wattle and daub, round houses, settlements, defences, ramparts, domesticated, woven, loom, hunter-gatherer |
| End of unit check – complete end of unit check and answer the question ‘How did Britain change from the Stone Age into the Iron Age?’ | | | Prehistoric, neolithic, Mesolithic, Palaeolithic, archaeologists, Stone Age, Bronze Age, Iron Age, Mesolithic, neolithic, wattle & daub, sinew, hunter-gatherer, aurochs, flax, weave, loom, preserved, inhabited, radio carbon, dating, excavated, midden, hearth, alloy, round houses, thatched, lintels, solstice, weaving, pagan, ards, natural resources, settlements, defences, ramparts, domesticated, woven. | | |