

Vocabulary	Definitions
Bronze	A type of metal made from copper and tin to make it harder and more durable.
Copper	A soft metal that, when added to tin, is made stronger.
Smelt	To melt in order to separate different metals.
Tunic	An outer layer of clothing usually coming to the knees.
Urn	A container, similar to a vase. It is often where the ashes from someone who has died are stored.
Wattle and daub	The building material of a house made from sticks and clay, straw or manure.
Migrate	To move from one country or region to another.
Prehistoric	A time before historical records began.
Celts	The name given to people who lived in the Bronze Age and the Iron Age.
Archaeologist	A person who studies human history through looking at artefacts and other remains.
Hillfort	A defended settlement built on a hilltop.

Some examples of pottery created by the Bell Beaker people.



Enquiry question: Would you prefer to live in the Stone Age, Bronze Age or Iron Age?

A hillfort



An example of a tunic



Key Knowledge

Some of the people who migrated to Britain were known as the Bell Beaker people. It was thought that bronze was first brought into Britain by the Bell Beaker people. They were named this after the distinctive bell-shaped pottery that was decorated with impressions made from a comb or cord. The pots were used for drinking from, to smelt copper, store food or to use as urns. Intricate pottery would show someone's wealth. The Bell Beaker people also introduced different types of weapons, tools and jewellery into Britain.

In 1800BC, the first copper mines were created. Two of the best known are at Mount Gabriel in County Cork and Great Orme, North Wales.

Tools and weapons in the Bronze Age were sharper and stronger than stone tools. Bronze tools were owned by the wealthy. During the Bronze Age, people lived in roundhouses. They used wattle and daub to build the walls. The people wore tunics made from wool woven into sheets of fabric. Farming was a big part of life. During this time, people moved from the hills to valleys where it was easier to grow food.

The Iron Age in Britain started around 800BC. It followed the Bronze Age after iron began to be used for making weapons and tools – it was stronger than bronze and easier to work with. The Iron Age continued in Britain until the Romans invaded in AD43.

Tools and weapons in the Iron Age were sharper and stronger than the Bronze Age. Everyone could own iron tools and weapons, not just the rich. Iron tools made farming more efficient. The Iron Age people lived in farming communities on hillforts. These hillforts allowed hundreds of people to live together. The people continued to live in roundhouses and wore tunics.

Key Skills

Place the time studied on a time line.

Use dates and terms related to the study unit and passing of time.

Sequence several events or artefacts.

Compare with our life today.

Find out about everyday lives of people in time studied.

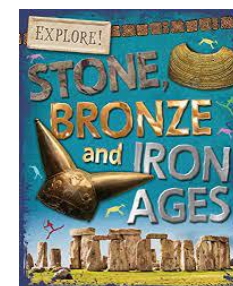
Understand why people may have wanted to do something.

Look at representations of the period – museum, cartoons etc. and discuss their meaning.

Observe small details – artefacts or pictures.

Communicate their knowledge in a range of different ways.

Stone, Bronze and Iron Ages by Sonya Newland



Bronze Age to Iron Age timeline

