

# Who first lived in Britain? (The Stone Age Part 1)

1 million years ago

First people in Britain

(30,000 BC - 10,000 BC)

The Palaeolithic Period or Old Stone Age

(10,000 BC - 8,000 BC)

The Mesolithic Period or Middle Stone Age

8,000 BC - 3,000 BC)

The Neolithic Period or New Stone Age

When was the Stone Age? Why was it called the Stone Age?

What can the village of Skara Brae tell about life in Neolithic times?

The Stone Age began about 2.6 million years ago. It is called the stone age because the earliest humans used **stones** to make sharp tools.



Skara Brae was a farming community in the Orkney Islands in Scotland during the Stone Age. 8 stone houses were discovered by archeologists. It tells us they were skilled craftsmen as they carved stone. It tells us they were skilled fishermen as many fish bones were found as well as bone tools used to take off skin.



What was life like through the different ages of the Stone Age?

The **Paleolithic age** or old stone age was around 30,000 BC- 10,000 BC this is when humans were found to be living on Earth surrounded by glaciers and it was the earliest part of the Stone Age. They had a Nomadic lifestyle and would move from one place to another, they were hunter gatherers and would make simple tools from stone and create cave paintings.

The **Mesolithic age** was from 10,000 BC to 8,000 BC Britain was now a place of grassland now the ice had melted. Hunters still hunted wild animals such as deer and fish using stone tools and spears. They would live in caves and huts and would follow animals to gather food. They would also forage for plants.

The **Neolithic age** was from 8,000 BC and 3,000 BC Britain was now a place of farmland and tools and weapons were used. More farmland was available and people started to grow their own crops keep their animals nearby and farm. People also started to make their own pottery and woven material. Due to shortage of farmland this caused fights and living with animals caused diseases. People began building their own houses made of rock, wood and turf.