

# Y3 - Changes in Britain from the Stone Age to the Iron Age

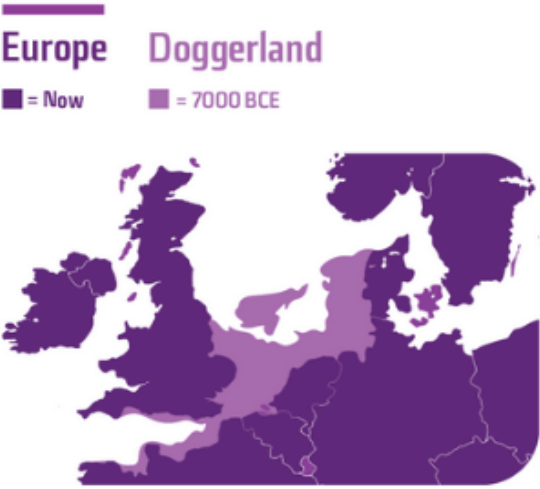
## Pre-Roman Britain

Period of History	Other key information
Palaeolithic Period	People were nomadic hunters and they found food by roaming from place to place in different seasons.
Neolithic Period	People began to settle into farming villages instead of moving from place to place. People started to look after animals and grow their own crops.
Mesolithic Period	Sea levels rose and Britain became an island (before this time Britain was joined to the mainland of Europe (Doggerland)). Tools were developed to become smaller and finer. The invention of canoes meant that people were better able to hunt for fish as well as animals,
Bronze Age	People discovered how to get metals out of rocks. Bronze replaced stone as the best material for making tools. People were able to build better farming equipment and they also began to make bronze weaponry.
Iron Age	Iron replaced bronze as the main material for making tools and weapons. People lived in tribes and they were often at war with each other. Iron Age people began to protect themselves by settling in hillforts. Sometimes people from the Iron Age are called 'Celts'.

The earliest known humans arrived in these lands around 900,000 years ago. During this time there were huge changes: the ice covering Britain melted; instead of hunting all the time, people learned to farm and make metal tools; they found time to worship. There is still evidence we can see around us today, such as Stonehenge, long burial mounds and hill forts which are thousands of years old. This, before the Romans invaded is often called prehistoric.

### Vocabulary

- Stone Age**— a prehistoric period when weapons and tools were made of stone or of organic materials such as bone, wood or horn.
- Bronze Age**— a prehistoric period that followed the Stone Age and preceded the Iron Age, when weapons and tools were made of bronze rather than stone.
- Iron Age**— a prehistoric period that followed the Bronze Age, when weapons and tools came to be made of iron.
- Palaeolithic Period** - a period in prehistory, distinguished by the original development of stone tools.
- Mesolithic Period**—the period of time between the Palaeolithic Age and the Neolithic Age.
- Neolithic Period**—the final division of the Stone Age.
- Skara Brae**—Skara Brae is a stone-built Neolithic settlement.
- Stonehenge**— *Stonehenge* is a prehistoric monument on Salisbury Plain in Wiltshire.
- Wattle and daub** - a composite building method used for making walls and buildings
- Hunter and Gatherer**—A lifestyle that relies on hunting and fishing animals and foraging for wild vegetation.
- Maiden Castle**— one of the largest and most complex Iron Age hillforts in England.



### Places



**Stonehenge.** A prehistoric monument in Wiltshire, southern England. It was used for burials and ceremonies for over 2000 years. Stonehenge was originally wooden before stones were added over time.



**Skara Brae.** A prehistoric village on the Orkney Islands, Scotland. It was built before Stonehenge began and was used during the Neolithic era. Skara Brae is extremely well preserved, helping archaeologists understand Neolithic life.



**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.

### Tools

