Topic: Bronze Age and Iron Age

Year: 3

Strand: Movement (Settlement/Migration/Invasion)

What should I already know?

- The Stone Age was when early humans used tools from stone. This is also known as pre-history.
- At the end of the Ice Age, the sea levels rose and so Britain turned into an island.
- The Stone Age had three periods - Palaeolithic ('old' Stone Age), Mesolithic ('middle' Stone Age) and Neolithic ('new' Stone Age).
- Palaeolithic Stone Age lasted until the end of the Ice Age. Early humans used stones as tools. This lasted till about 10,500 BC.
- Mesolithic Stone Age was from about 10,500 BC to 4,000 BC. Humans would demonstrate a variety of ways to gather food including hunting and fishing.
- Neolithic Stone Age was from 4,000 BC to about 2,500 BC. This marked the start of farming including land clearance and the keeping of animals.

Stone Age

Palaeolithic Britain: early humans first use tools from stone c. 800,000 BC - 10,500 BC
Neolithic Britain: start of farming c. 4,000 BC - 2,500 BC
Mesolithic Britain: end of Ice Age to start of farming c. 10,500 BC - 4,000 BC

Important Facts:

Bronze Age:
- The Bronze Age started at different times around the world.
- Tools were made from bronze - copper and tin were heated up and poured into casts.
- Evidence of the Bronze Age:
  - Amesbury Archer - the remains of an early Bronze Age man who was buried with over 100 artefacts
  - Discovery of round barrows and stone circles
- The Bronze Age started when the Beaker People arrived from Europe.
- They brought with them new ways of making metal.
- Bronze Age people lived in settlements, which was a group of round houses.
- Houses were made from wattle (sticks) and daub (mud) or dry stone.
- Settlements traded resources like copper and tin.
- Burials were important to Bronze Age people - they placed stone circles where burials took place.

Iron Age:
- Tools were made from iron. Iron was heated up then the hot iron was hammered into shape.
- Settlements became larger because tribes were better able to farm and defend themselves.
- At the end of the Iron Age, coins were made and used as currency.
- There were lots of battles between tribes who fought each other for more land and power.

Timeline

- c. 800,000 BC - 10,500 BC: Palaeolithic Stone Age
- c. 4,000 BC - 2,500 BC: Neolithic Stone Age
- c. 1,000 BC: The cart with wheels is invented.
- c. 800 BC: Coins are thought to be first used.
- c. AD 43: The Romans conquer Britain. This marks the end of the Iron Age.

Historical Skills and Enquiry

- Describe what life was like for all groups of people during the Bronze and Iron Ages.
- Ask questions and find out the answers about the Bronze and Iron Ages.
- Explain how Britain changed during the Bronze and Iron Ages using a timeline to help.
- Explain how we know about the Bronze and Iron Ages.
- Study Bronze and Iron Age artefacts/tools and explain what their uses were.
- Place events on a timeline using dates.
- Compare the Stone, Bronze and Iron Ages using a Venn diagram.
- Explain what religious beliefs were during this time.
- Explain how the Roman invasion brought an end to the Iron Age.
- Present what you know about the Bronze and Iron Ages using a variety of skills (e.g. Geography, English, Maths, Computing)

Vocabulary

- archaeologist: someone who studies the past by exploring old remains
- artefact: an object from the past that shows evidence of what life was like
- barrow: a large structure made of earth that people used to build over graves.
- believe: Bronze Age people held religious gatherings, usually around burials. Iron Age people believed in powerful spirits.
- bronze: copper and tin are melted together to make a metal called bronze.
- century: a period of 100 years
- circa: Latin meaning ‘around’. c. 800 BC means around 800 BC.
- druids: powerful religious people
- gather: collect things together
- hillfort: settlements built on hills to provide more protection
- invasion: to try and take over a place by force
- loom: an apparatus that makes fabric using threads
- migration: movement from one place to another in order to settle there
- rampart: a defensive wall built for protection
- remains: traces of the past
- resources: something used to help when needed. Resources are usually traded.
- sacrifice: offerings to spirits such as weapons, animals and humans
- settler/settlement: people who migrate to a new place. When people start a community, this is a settlement
- stone circle: burials took place in stone circles.
- trade: the activity of buying, selling, or exchanging goods or services
- variety: things which are different from each other
### Question 1: Place these in order of chronology using the numbers 1-4.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Start of unit</th>
<th>End of unit</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The cart with wheels is invented</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>The Romans invade Britain</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Beaker People arrive</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Iron Age begins</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Question 2: How did Iron Age people protect their settlements? Tick two

- trade
- migration
- hillforts
- ramparts

### Question 3: Which year did the Bronze Age start?

- 2, 500 BC
- 0
- AD 43
- AD 2, 500

### Question 4: A settlement is...

- where people were buried
- where people hunted
- where people migrated to, to live in a community
- where people migrated from

### Question 5: Why do we use the word ‘circa’ to describe when the Bronze and Iron Ages were? Start of unit: End of unit:

- there were lots of circles around
- we don’t know exactly when they were
- they had people from the circus there

### Question 6: Somebody who studies the past by exploring old ruins is called...

- an archaeologist
- a settler
- a Beaker Person
- an invader

### Question 7: What is bronze made out of? Tick two.

- gold
- silver
- copper
- tin

### Question 8: The Iron Age ended when...

- The Beaker People settled in Britain
- The Romans invaded Britain
- Coins were made and used as currency
- The Amesbury Archer was found

### Question 9: The discovery of the Amesbury Archer was important because...

- he was an archer
- the artefacts he was buried with told us a lot about the Iron Age
- archaeologists found him
- we know who killed him

### Question 10: The Iron Age ended in...

- 800 BC
- 43 BC
- AD 43
- AD 800