

Footprints back in time...

The Stone Age



LO: To understand how evidence is used to find out about the past.

Why is it called the Stone Age?

The Stone Age is the first period of human history. It is called the Stone Age because stone was used to make tools and other objects during this time period. The first humans existed 2 million years ago.



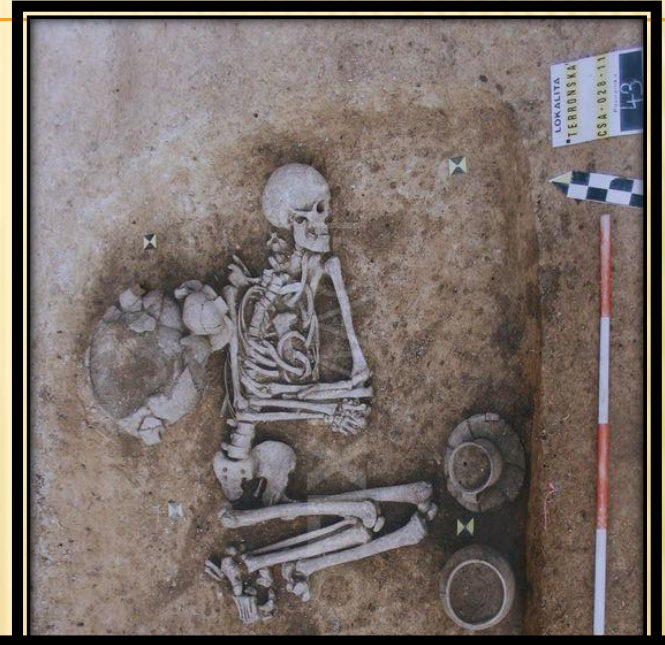
What was it like in the Stone Age?



HOW DO WE KNOW ABOUT THE STONE AGE?

Archaeologists are like detectives, they have discovered what the first hunter-gathers lived like by digging up skeletons and weapons. They have used these as clues to try to understand the how these Neanderthals lived in 120,000BC.

Archaeologists have discovered cave paintings which show how the Neanderthals might have lived and communicated in the Stone Age. The painting of a Bison was found in the caves at Altamira in Spain.



PERIODS IN THE STONE AGE

The stone age is the longest period of human history (it can be split into three stages).

Palaeolithic period (2 million years ago)

First stone tools invented

Mesolithic period (10,000BC)

Tools, bow and arrows to hunt deer.

Neolithic period (8000BC)

The start of farming

STONEHENGE

Stonehenge was built in phases from about 3100 B.C. to 1600 B.C. Yes, more than 5,000 years ago—during the Stone Age, long before the wheel was invented! We know this because scientists have used carbon dating to analyze the age of animal bones buried at the site.



Nobody knows where it came from, how the stones got there or why its there. It is one of the biggest mysteries.