



CONONLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL  
Inspiring and Challenging Our Children

# Changes in Britain from Stone Age to Iron Age Key Stage 2

**Key:**

For this each History topic, the key knowledge to be taught to both Lower Key Stage 2 (Years 3 & 4) and Upper Key Stage 2 (Years 5 & 6) is written in **black** type.

Additional key knowledge taught to Upper Key Stage 2 (Years 5 & 6) is written in **red** type.

## History: Curriculum Intent—Key Knowledge

### Background

The story of prehistoric Britain began when the first humans arrived in Britain. It ended when the Romans conquered the ancient Britons and Britain became part of the **Roman Empire**. The earliest humans were hunter-gatherers. They survived by hunting animals and finding food to eat. Then, very gradually people learned new skills. First they learned to **herd animals** and **grow crops**. Later they discovered the secrets of making **bronze** and **iron**. Prehistoric people couldn't read or write, but they were **astounding builders**. Their tombs, forts and monuments have survived for thousands of years.

All dates below are approximate	All dates below are approximate
<b>Stone Age:</b> Paleolithic 10,000 BC/BCE and before	800,000 BC/BCE – Earliest footprints in Britain 10,000 BC/BCE- End of the last Ice Age
Mesolithic 10,000 BC/BCE to 4000 BC/BCE	4000 BC/BCE - Stone Age people began to farm for food, rather than just hunting and gathering.
Neolithic 4000 BC/BCE to 2300 BC/BCE	3000 BC/BCE – Stonehenge started 3000 BC/BCE – Skara Brae built
<b>Bronze Age:</b> 2300 BC/BCE to 800 BC/BCE	2300 BC/BCE – people began to work with bronze 1600 BC/BCE – Stonehenge abandoned 1500 BC/BCE- People lived in villages and had farms with livestock and crops. 1200 BC/BCE- Hill forts were built for protection from unfriendly tribes.
<b>Iron Age:</b> 800 BC/BCE to 43 AD/CE	800 BC/BCE – people began to work with iron 120 BC/BCE – the first coins were introduced from Europe 54 BC/BCE- the first Roman Invasion (Julius Caesar) 43 AD/CE – the second Roman Invasion (Claudius)

### Key Themes and terms which run through our history curriculum

**Archeology / archeologist** – the study of history by digging in different historic sites and studying what is found/ someone who digs up the remains of old societies

**Culture** –shared behaviour such as diet, language, clothing, tools, music, arts, customs, beliefs, and religion, which are shared by a group of people or society

**Immigration, immigrant** – people who move to a different country and live there permanently.

**Migration** – leaving an area or country to live somewhere else

**Settlers** – a person, or group of people, who have arrived in a different area or country to set up home there and use the land.

**Society** – people living together in organised communities

**Trade** - is the activity of buying, selling, or exchanging goods or services between people, businesses, or countries

### Key Places (Chronological)

<b>Lascaux</b>	Place in the Dordogne, France, where cave paintings have been discovered, dating from the Paleolithic period. They are estimated to be 20,000 years old.
<b>Star Carr</b>	Important archeological site in Yorkshire dating from the Mesolithic period
<b>Skara Brae</b>	Neolithic settlement in the Orkney Islands
<b>Stonehenge</b>	Neolithic stone circle in Wiltshire
<b>Must Farm</b>	A Bronze Age settlement in Cambridgeshire
<b>Danebury</b>	An Iron age hill fort in Hampshire
<b>Maiden Castle</b>	An iron age hill fort in Dorchester

### Key People (Chronological)

**The Amesbury Archer** – visitor from the Alps who was buried near Stonehenge c2300 BC/ BCE


**Wetwang tribal Queen** – buried with a spectacular chariot in Yorkshire c200 BC/BCE

**Lindow Man** –sacrificed in a religious ceremony and placed in a bog in Cheshire c 40 BC/BCE.

## Curriculum Intent: Key Lines of Enquiry

Key line of enquiry 1:	Key line of enquiry 2:	Key line of enquiry 3:
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>What was pre-historic Britain like?</b></p> <p>We will learn about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The names of the three 'ages' in pre-historic Britain – Stone Age, Bronze Age and Iron Age.</li> <li>How we know about life in pre-historic Britain when there are no written records.</li> <li>The climate changes in Pre-historic Britain before 10,000BCE <b>Year 5 &amp; 6 to study in greater depth using a range of evidence</b></li> <li>The animals which could be found in pre-historic Britain</li> <li>Pre-historic remains in the Craven area.</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Were Stone Age people just simple hunter-gatherers? (Paleolithic and Mesolithic)</b></p> <p>We will learn about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How early Stone Age people found food to eat (hunter gatherers) and the tools they used</li> <li>How Stone Age people moved around to find food, not settling in one place for long. Some used caves for shelter. Some created 'tents' using branches and animal skins.</li> <li>Evidence that they were interested in more than just food and shelter by examining the Lascaux Cave Paintings and findings at Star Carr, Yorkshire.</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>How much did life change for Stone Age people when they started to farm? (Neolithic)</b></p> <p>We will learn about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How Stone Age people gradually began to set up farms, grow their own crops and keep animals.</li> <li>How this meant that they began to live in permanent settlements, rather than living a nomadic life style.</li> <li>How clothes and diet changed</li> <li>Skara Brae and what it tells us about life in the Neolithic period.</li> <li><b>Year 5 &amp; 6: in depth study of Skara Brae</b></li> <li>Why the Neolithic people built stone circles, including Stone henge, long barrows and gravemounds</li> <li><b>The technology available to the Neolithic people which enabled them to build.</b></li> </ul>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Key Vocabulary</b></p> <p><b>Ice age-</b> An <b>ice age</b> is a time when thick <b>ice</b> sheets called glaciers cover huge areas of land. An <b>ice age</b> may last for millions of years and can cause big changes to Earth's surface. <b>Ice ages</b> have happened a number of times throughout Earth's history.</p> <p><b>Mesolithic-</b> The <b>Mesolithic</b> was a period in the development of human technology between the Paleolithic and Neolithic periods of the Stone Age.</p> <p><b>Neolithic—</b>The <b>neolithic</b> is the youngest part of the Stone Age . The neolithic period is the time when farming was invented and when people started caring for animals, such as cows, sheep and pigs.</p> <p><b>Paleolithic-</b> The <i>Paleolithic</i> Age covers the period from when stone tools were first used by humans at to the beginning of the Stone Age.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Key Vocabulary</b></p> <p><b>Flint</b> - a very hard type of rock used by humans to make tools in the Stone Age.</p> <p><b>Hunter-gatherer</b> - a member of a culture in which people hunt animals and look for plants to eat instead of growing crops and raising animals.</p> <p><b>Nomadic</b> - a culture in which people have no permanent home but move from place to place usually in search of food or to graze livestock.</p> <p><b>Settlement</b> –a place where a group of people have chosen to build permanent homes and live together in a community.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Key Vocabulary</b></p> <p><b>Domesticated (animals)</b> - an animal that is not wild and is kept as a pet or to produce food</p> <p><b>Long barrow</b> - a prehistoric monument dating to the early Neolithic period. They are rectangular or trapezoidal shaped or earth mounds. It is thought that they are burial grounds.</p> <p><b>Settlement</b> -a place where a group of people have chosen to build permanent homes and live together in a community</p> <p><b>Skara Brae</b> - <b>Skara Brae</b> is a Neolithic Age site, consisting of ten stone structures, near the Bay of Skail, Orkney, Scotland.</p> <p><b>Stone circle</b> - a circle of standing stones made by humans during prehistoric times. No-one knows exactly why they were constructed, but they are thought to have links with geometry and astronomy.</p> <p><b>Stonehenge</b> - is a circular group of huge stone blocks in southern England built between 5,000 and 3,500 years ago. No one knows for sure why <b>Stonehenge</b> was built. Many scholars think that it was a place of religious worship.</p>

## Curriculum Intent: Key Lines of Enquiry

Key line of enquiry 4:	Additional Line of Enquiry 5:	Links to other History topics:
<p><b>What was life like in the Bronze Age and how do we know?</b> We will learn about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Immigrants from central Europe who settled in Britain, bringing with them new skills – how to work with the metal (by heating it until it became soft enough to make into different shapes)</li> <li>How the population of this country has a diverse history</li> </ul>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reasons for and effects of immigration, for example, new burial customs, new skills.</li> <li>The Beaker people.</li> <li>Growth of mining and trading</li> <li>How people travelled during the Bronze age, using boats and chariots.</li> <li>The grave of the Amesbury Archer and what it tells us about life in the Bronze Age.</li> <li>Must Farm, Cambridgeshire. What do the discoveries at this site tell us about Bronze Age Britain?</li> </ul>	<p><b>What was life like in the Iron Age and how do we know?</b> We will learn about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How people discovered that they could make iron much harder (by heating it with carbon).</li> <li>This made it more suitable for making tools and weapons. Farms became more successful as tools were better. Battles were more violent because weapons could do more damage.</li> <li>The Wetwang tribal queen</li> <li>How people lived in tribes and clans</li> <li>The Celts</li> <li>Celtic religion and culture – what remains of this culture today?</li> <li>The discoveries at Danebury Hill Fort and what this tells us about Iron age homes, food, clothes, jobs and religion</li> <li>Maiden Castle – can you solve the mystery of the 52 bodies found at Maiden Castle?</li> <li>Lindow Man</li> </ul>	<p><b>Links to other History topics:</b> The Romans in Britain Comparison with Ancient Civilisations at the same period in history: Early Greek Civilisation, Egyptian Civilisation.</p>
<p><b>Key Vocabulary</b></p> <p><b>Culture</b> –shared behaviour such as diet, language, clothing, tools, music, arts, customs, beliefs, and religion, which are shared by a group of people or society</p> <p><b>Immigration, immigrant</b> – people who move to a different country and live there permanently</p> <p><b>Settlers</b> – a person, or group of people, who have arrived in a different area or country to set up home there and use the land.</p> <p><b>Trade</b> - is the activity of buying, selling, or exchanging goods or services between people, businesses, or countries</p>	<p><b>Key Vocabulary</b></p> <p><b>Celtic</b> - word used to describe all of the people who lived in Britain and northwest Europe during the Iron Age – from 600 BC to 43 AD (until the Roman invasion of Britain). There were many tribes of Celts speaking a vaguely similar language.</p> <p><b>Clans</b> - a group of people who – following a tradition – belong to the same kin. The word comes from the Gaelic language, and <i>means</i> 'family'.</p> <p><b>Hill fort</b> - a fort or settlement on a hilltop, strengthened with ramparts and ditches to defend it from enemies.</p> <p><b>Tribe</b>- a group of people living together, usually with a leader, sharing a common culture and language</p>	<p><b>Links to other subjects:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Art – cave paintings, Celtic patterns, pottery</li> <li>Science –space</li> <li>Geography – use of aerial photography to show impact Stone Age, Bronze Age and Iron Age on the landscape</li> <li>Possible English text: The Boy with the Bronze Axe – Kathleen Fiddler</li> <li>British Values</li> </ul> 