

Life in an Iron Age Hillfort with Ellie

Learning objective: To identify and describe key features of life in Britain during the Iron Age.

Ellie the elephant has been using her incredible memory to study Iron Age history. Look at the word bank provided. Use these terms to complete the sentences below and help Ellie label the different parts of a typical Iron Age settlement. Each word should be used exactly once.

Word bank: roundhouse · hillfort · ramparts · iron · subsistence · weaving · fortifications

1. 1. To protect their homes from enemies, people built a large _____ on top of a hill, which used high banks and ditches as _____. (2 marks)

2. 2. Inside the walls, families lived in a circular wooden home called a _____, which usually had a thatched roof. (1 mark)

3. 3. The Iron Age is named after the strong metal, _____, which replaced bronze for making tools and weapons. (1 mark)

4. 4. Farmers grew their own food to survive; this way of living is known as _____ farming. (1 mark)

5. 5. Ellie remembers that people were very skilled at _____, using looms to create colourful cloth from wool. (1 mark)

Draw: Draw a cross-section of an Iron Age hillfort. Include the high earth banks (ramparts), a deep ditch, and a roundhouse in the centre. Label these three features on your drawing.



Extension challenge: Imagine you are living in an Iron Age village. Write a short diary entry (3-4 sentences) describing one daily task you might do, such as grinding grain for bread or helping to repair a fence.