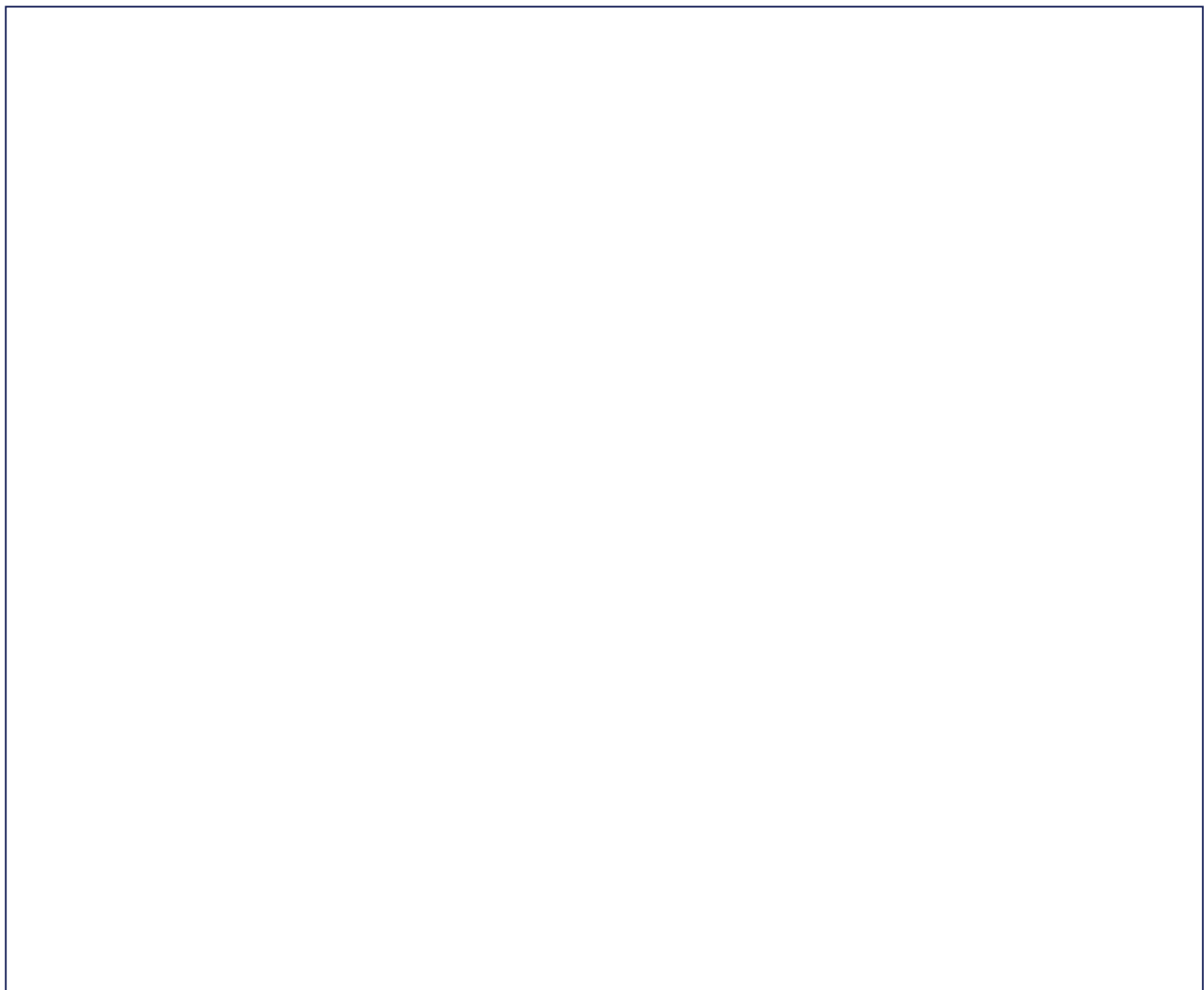


Life in an Iron Age Hillfort with Ellie the Elephant

Learning objective: To understand the features of an Iron Age hillfort and the daily life of people living in Britain during that period.

Use your knowledge of the Iron Age to create a detailed scene of a hillfort. Use the word bank to label your drawing and ensure you include the key defensive features we have studied.

Draw: Create a bird's-eye view drawing of a hillfort. Use a pencil to sketch a large circle representing the top of a hill. Inside, draw several round houses with conical thatched roofs. Surround the entire settlement with two thick lines representing earth ramparts with a deep ditch in between. Add a wooden palisade fence around the perimeter. Include some small animals like sheep or cows near the houses. Use colour to show the green grass of the hill and the brown wooden textures of the homes.



Label words: Roundhouse · Ramparts · Ditch · Palisade · Thatch · Hillfort · Livestock

Steps:

1. Ellie the Elephant is visiting an Iron Age settlement. Draw a roundhouse in the centre of your page. Label the 'thatch' roof and the 'roundhouse' walls.
2. Iron Age people built their homes on high ground for protection. Draw 'ramparts' (large earth banks) and a 'ditch' surrounding your roundhouse. Why was this important?

3. Draw a 'palisade' (a wooden fence) on top of your ramparts. How might this help the people living inside?
4. List two types of animals or 'livestock' that an Iron Age farmer might keep inside the hillfort walls.
5. Look at your drawing. What material would the people have used to make their tools and weapons during the Iron Age?