

Ellie's Stone Age Expedition: Life in the Palaeolithic and Neolithic

Learning objective: To understand the changes in human lifestyle from the Palaeolithic to the Neolithic periods and represent these through historical illustration.

Use the drawing prompt below to create a detailed scene. Then, use the Word Bank to label the key features of your drawing. Finally, answer the challenge questions to demonstrate your historical understanding.

Draw: Create a split-screen illustration. On the left side, depict a Palaeolithic scene with a nomadic family near a cave entrance, showing fire, simple stone tools, and animal furs. On the right side, depict a Neolithic scene with a sturdy timber-framed house, a fenced area for livestock, and a small field of wheat. Use a clear, observational style similar to a museum reconstruction drawing. Ensure you include labels from the Word Bank to show the contrast between the two periods.



Label words: Flint tools · Settlement · Hunter-gatherer · Agriculture · Hearth · Domesticated animals · Cave art · Polished axe

Steps:

1. Step 1: Draw a small, temporary shelter made of animal hides and wooden branches. Label this 'Palaeolithic Shelter'.

2. Step 2: Beside your shelter, draw a group of people using flint tools to prepare food. Why were these tools essential for survival?
3. Step 3: Draw a Neolithic farm in the background with a small field of crops. Label the crops.
4. Explain why the invention of agriculture allowed humans to stop moving from place to place. Justify your answer using evidence from your drawing.
5. Compare and contrast the lifestyle of a Palaeolithic hunter-gatherer and a Neolithic farmer. What is the biggest difference?
6. What might happen if a Neolithic farming community experienced a long drought? Predict the consequences for their settlement.