

Iron Age Life: A Day in the Settlement

Learning objective: To describe and explain the features of life in Britain during the Iron Age, including hillforts, farming, and daily activities.

Imagine you are living in an Iron Age hillfort. Use your historical knowledge and the word bank to complete this diary entry template. Write as if you are a child helping your family prepare for the changing seasons.

Word bank: Hillfort · Roundhouse · Thatch · Wattle and daub · Currency bars · Iron tools · Hilltop · Defensive ditch · Livestock

1. My Home: Describe the roundhouse you live in. What materials were used to build the walls and the roof? (3 marks)

2. Living on the Hill: Why do you think our settlement was built on high ground with a defensive ditch around it? (3 marks)

3. Daily Chores: Explain one task you helped with today using iron tools. How do these tools make life easier than bronze ones? (3 marks)

4. Trade and Barter: You are heading to the local market. What items are you taking to trade? Remember, we use currency bars here! (3 marks)

5. The Changing Seasons: Ellie the elephant says that Iron Age people had to be experts at farming to survive winter. What crops or livestock are we preparing for the cold months? (3 marks)

Extension challenge: Research how Iron Age people decorated their pottery or jewellery. Design a pattern in the space below that you might find on an Iron Age brooch or bowl.