Stone Age Explorer: My Archaeological Fact-File

Learning objective: To identify and describe the key characteristics of the Palaeolithic, Mesolithic, and Neolithic periods of the Stone Age.

Welcome, young historian! Ellie the Elephant has been digging through history to help us understand how humans lived thousands of years ago. Use this fact-file to record what you have learned about the three stages of the Stone Age. Be sure to use the word bank to help with your descriptions.

Word bank: Palaeolithic · Mesolithic · Neolithic · Hunter-gatherer · Agriculture · Settlement · Flint · Nomadic · Bronze Age

1. The Palaeolithic Period: Describe how early humans found their food and why they had to keep moving from place to place. (3 marks)

2. Tools and Technology: Explain how flint was used by Stone Age people to make tools and why these were important for survival. (3 marks)

3. The Neolithic Revolution: How did the change from hunting to farming (agriculture) change where people lived? (3 marks)

4. Daily Life: What kind of shelters did people build once they stopped being nomadic? Describe the materials they might have used. (2 marks)

5. History Mystery: If you were an archaeologist finding an object from the Stone Age today, what would you hope to find and why? (2 marks)

Extension challenge: Imagine you are a Stone Age person living during the Neolithic transition. Write a short journal entry (50-80 words) describing your first day living in a permanent farming village instead of moving camp.