Ellie’s Bronze Age Archaeology Adventure

Learning objective: To understand the changes in materials and daily life during the Bronze Age, specifically the invention and use of bronze tools and jewellery.

Ellie the Elephant has been digging through history! She has found items from different times, but they are all mixed up. Look at the word bank and sort the items into the correct table. Decide if the item was likely used in the Stone Age (made of wood, stone, or bone) or the Bronze Age (made of metal).

Word bank: Flint axe · Bronze sword · Stone hand-axe · Bronze brooch · Antler hammer · Bronze sickle · Wooden spear · Bronze axe head

1. 1. Create a table with two columns: 'Stone Age' and 'Bronze Age'. Place the items from the word bank into the correct column. (8 marks)

2. 2. Why was bronze a better material for making tools than stone? Think about what happens when you hit a stone against a rock. (2 marks)

3. 3. Bronze is an alloy made by mixing two metals together: copper and tin. If a metal worker wanted to make 5 bronze brooches and each cost £2 in materials to make, what would be the total cost? (2 marks)

4. 4. How did the discovery of metal change the way people farmed the land? (2 marks)

5. 5. Ellie found a burial mound containing a bronze necklace. What does this tell us about the person who was buried there? (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of a Bronze Age metalworker at their forge, using fire to melt copper and tin to create a new tool.

Extension challenge: Research what a 'roundhouse' looked like in the Bronze Age. Write three sentences describing how it was different from a Stone Age shelter.