Discovering the Bronze Age: A Journey Through Time with Ellie

Step into the past! Join Ellie the elephant as she uncovers how our ancestors transformed the world using the power of metal.

- **The Bronze Age began when people in Britain discovered how to combine copper and tin to create a brand new, stronger material.**
- **Settlements began to change as people built large hillforts and defensive enclosures to protect their communities and precious resources.**
- **Burial customs became very elaborate, with many important people laid to rest in round barrows accompanied by beautiful gold and bronze jewellery.**
- **Trade routes expanded significantly during this time, with people traveling long distances across land and sea to exchange metal ores and finished goods.**
- **Farming techniques improved, allowing families to settle in one place for longer periods and clear more land for wheat, barley, and grazing livestock.**
- **The skill of metalworking was highly valued, and those who could master the furnace to craft swords, axes, and cauldrons were seen as master craftspeople.**

Did you know? Did you know? Bronze is an alloy, which means it is a mixture of two metals: copper and tin! By heating these metals until they melted, Bronze Age people created tools and weapons that were much stronger and more durable than the stone tools used by their ancestors.

Key vocabulary: Bronze · Alloy · Smelting · Hillfort · Barrow · Trade · Metallurgy