Adventures in the Stone Age with Ellie the Elephant

Learning objective: To understand how humans lived during the Stone Age, including the transition from the Palaeolithic to the Neolithic period.

Read the questions carefully and use your historical knowledge to answer. Think about how Ellie would use her incredible memory to recall how people lived thousands of years ago!

Ellie the Elephant has been reading her history scrolls! She has been looking at how people lived a very long time ago. From the early days of hunting and gathering to the later years when people began to farm and build homes, the Stone Age was a time of huge change.

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

1. Explain the difference between a 'nomadic' lifestyle and a 'settlement'. Why did people stop moving around in the Neolithic period? (3 marks)

2. During the Stone Age, people used a hard rock called 'flint' to make tools. Name two things they might have used these stone tools for in their daily lives. (2 marks)

3. The Stone Age is split into two main parts: the Palaeolithic and the Neolithic. Which period was known for the invention of farming? How did this change what people ate? (2 marks)

4. Imagine you are a hunter-gatherer. If you had to pack your bags to move to a new area, why would you choose to stay near a river? (2 marks)

5. Sort these items into 'Natural' or 'Man-made' based on what a Stone Age person might have used: Animal skin, flint axe, wild berries, wooden spear. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of a Neolithic settlement. Include a small circular stone hut, a field for growing crops, and a person using a stone tool.

Extension challenge: Research Skara Brae. Write three sentences about why this place is important for historians who study the Stone Age.