Stone Age Explorer Flashcards with Ellie the Elephant

Learning objective: To recall and understand key terminology and developments related to the Stone Age periods: Palaeolithic, Mesolithic, and Neolithic.

Use these flashcards to test your knowledge of the Stone Age. Read the front, try to answer, then check the back!

What does the term 'Palaeolithic' mean?

The 'Old Stone Age', which was the earliest and longest period of human history.

Describe the lifestyle of a 'hunter-gatherer'.

People who survived by hunting wild animals and gathering wild plants, nuts, and berries rather than farming.

What is the main difference between the Mesolithic and Neolithic periods?

In the Neolithic period, humans transitioned from being nomadic hunter-gatherers to settled farmers (the Neolithic Revolution).

Why was 'flint' so important to Stone Age people?

It is a hard stone that could be knapped into sharp edges to create tools, arrowheads, and scrapers for daily tasks.

What is a 'nomadic' lifestyle?

A way of life where people do not have a permanent home but move from place to place in search of food and resources.

What is Skara Brae?

A well-preserved Neolithic village found in the Orkney Islands, Scotland, showing how early farmers lived in stone houses.

What does 'domesticate' mean in the context of the Neolithic period?

The process of taming wild animals (like sheep or cattle) and cultivating wild plants to provide a reliable food source.

Name one significant change that occurred during the Neolithic period.

The invention of pottery, the development of farming, or the building of permanent stone settlements.

What is an archaeologist?

A person who studies human history and prehistory through the excavation of sites and the analysis of artefacts.

How did Stone Age people create fire?

By striking iron pyrites against flint to create sparks, or by using friction through rubbing sticks together.