

Stone Age Timeline Cards - Cut and Sort

These timeline cards show changes in Britain in the Stone Age in green, and what was happening in the rest of the world in orange.

40,000 BC

Neanderthals start painting pictures in caves in Spain.

Telling stories, leaving messages, purely for fun or for a religious purpose? No one knows.

7,000 BC

Pottery is made in China.

120,000 BC

'Neanderthals' were a type of 'Homo sapien' (wise man).

They were the first early humans to bury their dead.

650,000 BC

Early humans started to use hand axes.

4,500,000 BC

In Africa, apes had begun to stand upright and learn new skills to survive their changing environment. They turned into the earliest ancestors of humans.

1,600,000 BC

'Homo erectus' appeared. They were skilful hunters and killed animals to eat. They used spears.

2,000,000 BC

The first real humans appeared, 'Homo habilis', which means 'handy man'. They used simple stone tools and built shelters.

3,000 BC

The first part of Stonehenge is built. Other less famous circles are built in Yorkshire, Orkney and Cumbria.

100,000 BC

Neanderthals made it to Britain, coping with the cold weather by living in caves and making warm clothes from animal skins.

200,000 BC

Great sheets of ice cover Britain and food is scarce. Early humans are forced to leave for warmer countries.

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10,000 BC

The last glacial period in Britain, commonly known as 'The Ice Age' comes to an end. This is now the Mesolithic period of the Stone Age.

12,000 BC

The earliest humans that are direct ancestors of some of the current population arrive in Britain.

120,000 BC

'Neanderthals' were a type of 'Homo sapien' (wise man).

They were the first early humans to bury their dead.

100,000 BC

Early humans start to bury their dead.

The earliest clear evidence of this practice took place in Israel.

4,000 BC

Farming begins and crops such as barley and wheat are grown.

6,000 BC

Britain is cut off from the continent by rising sea levels.

250,000 BC

People begin to live in the entrance to caves. A group of stone age hunters were discovered in Pontnewydd Cave in Denbighshire, North Wales.

12,000 BC

No more woolly mammoths in Britain. This was possibly due to grassland turning into forest with the changing climate.

35,000 BC

'Homo sapiens sapiens' (wise-wise man) arrive in Europe and Neanderthals die out. The first European Early Humans (sometimes referred to as 'Cro-Magnons') come to Britain.

4,000 BC

Travel is revolutionised when people start to ride horses instead of walking.