

The Stone Age

- The Stone Age is named after the stone tools that the earliest humans used to kill animals, such as mammoths, for their meat, bone marrow and skins.
- The bones were also useful for making tools, such as needles to sew skins together.
- People in the Stone Age moved around from place to place with the seasons, in order to keep safe and warm and to follow the animals they hunted.
- During the Paleolithic period, hunter-gatherers had to catch or find everything that they ate.

Skara Brae

- Skara Brae was discovered by William Watt after a storm in AD 1850 removed the earth that had been covering it.
- It is a village of eight houses, linked by covered passageways.
- Not all of the houses were built at the same time. The later ones are slightly bigger but they have very similar features, such as a central firepit and stone shelves.
- The village tells us a lot about life in the late Stone Age, including what people ate and what sort of tools they used.
- Animal bones including cattle and sheep and barley and wheat grown nearby suggests it was a farming community
- Remains of fish indicate that they were skilled fisher men
- Many examples of jewellery were found including pendants, pins, necklaces and beads.
- The lack of weapons suggest that life was peaceful.

What does Skara Brae reveal about life in The Stone Age?



Important Ages

Stone Age – When the first humans began to live in Europe. They used stones as tools.

Iron Age - Humans now used iron to make tools, and farmed land instead of hunting. They lived in communities.

Bronze Age - In this era, metals were used to make hunting tools. Humans also began to farm land.

