Tribal Tales

Imaginative learning project for year 3 2025



Take a moment to step outside and stand quietly and still. Turn off all your technology and try to forget the modern world. Imagine this place 5000 years ago. What would you have seen?

Head back to prehistoric times to gather berries and hunt down dinner. Unearth ancient objects and visit astonishing mystical monuments that reveal the secrets of an ancient time.

Learn how the people of Britain developed over thousands of years from the Stone Age to the Roman invasion.

Work as a tribe to build a seasonal monument to celebrate the coming of Spring. Then, sit quietly and reflect, waiting for the sun to rise.

History Focus. Key Facts:

- Millions of years before the first humans appeared, dinosaurs walked the Earth. Humans first arrived in Britain at least 900,000 years ago, a long time after the dinosaurs had died.
- Prehistoric time is the time before there were any written records.
- Human records were first kept at the time of the Roman invasion in AD43. Prior to that, people use artefacts, cave art, buildings and burial sites to discover more about how prehistoric people lived.
- Prehistory is divided into three main periods: the Stone, the Bronze and the Iron Ages which are named after the main materials used at each time.
- In the Stone Age, early humans used tools from wood and bone along with using flaky stones, such as flint, to make sharp tools and spear tips.
- In the Bronze Age, tools and weapons were made from bronze which was harder and more robust a material than had been used before. Most people lived in farms or villages by this time.
- In the Iron Age, people used iron to make weapons and tools. Iron was cheaper, stronger and lighter than bronze. People now lived in tribes and fought against each other for land and goods. Hill forts were built for defence.

Key Vocabulary

- ⇒ Anthropologist: someone who studies the culture, society and development of the human race
- ⇒ Artefact: an object made by a person, such as a decoration or a tool, which is of historical interest
- ⇒ Awl: a small pointed tool used for piercing holes in leather or wood
- \Rightarrow Burin: a tool used to engrave wood or metal
- ⇒ Civilisation: the process that involves a society becoming more developed and organised.
- ⇒ Earthwork: a large, man-made bank of soil that was used for defence against enemies in the past
- Excavation: the act of removing very old objects from the earth to discover things about the past
- ⇒ Palaeontologist: someone who studies fossils to find out more about the structure of rocks and the history of life on earth.

Homework Projects

- ♦ Iron Age people started growing crops such as spelt wheat, barley, rye and oats. Can you find these foods in your local shops? Can you find out where these crops are grown now? List your findings in a table.
- Make a list of all the skills a historian might need to do their job. Can you write a letter of application for the post of historian at your local museum?
- Find out about the indigenous people of North Sentinel Island in Asia. How does their lifestyle compare to that of prehistoric humans? Make an information collage about this interesting tribe.
- Find out more about rock art—human-made markings placed on natural stone. Draw your own or a friend's pet in the style of a prehistoric cave painting.