



Year 3 - The Dawn of Man



As Language Specialists we will be reading a variety of texts with Stone Age themes. *Stone Age Boy* by Satoshi Kitamura, *Ug: Boy Genius of the Stone Age* by Raymond Briggs, *The Fossil Girl* by Catherine Brighton, *How to Wash a Woolly Mammoth* by Michelle Robinson, *The Pebble in My Pocket* by Meredith Hooper and *Stig of the Dump* by Clive King are just some of the Stone Age texts we will be appreciating. Hanna-Barbera masterpiece *The Flintstones* will bring a light-hearted, if somewhat inaccurate, perspective on Stone Age life, as will the film *The Croods*. The wider concept of change will be explored by listening to *The Guardian* newspaper's climate change poetry read by James Franco, Jeremy Irons, Tamsin Greig, Gabriel Byrne and Michael Sheen.

The Big Idea: "The Stone Age did not end because humans ran out of stones. It ended because it was time for a re-think about how we live." - William McDonough, American Scientist. In this brilliant topic we will delve into the Stone Age and investigate why this period in history is regarded as one of the most important in human evolution. As anthropologists we will explore the idea of *change* and consider how the world is constantly evolving around us, as well as consider how change in our own circumstances can be wondrous and challenging. Join us as we try to understand the epic 5 million year journey of humankind, and reflect on how our ancestors have allowed us to be the people of today.

As Mathematicians we will explore the Stone Age geometry of squares, triangles, circles, cubes and spheres. We will consolidate our understanding of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division and apply our calculation skills to a range of problem solving activities. Investigating measures, such as time, mass, capacity and length will also be an area of inquiry we will be engaging with. Learning our 3, 4 and 8 times tables will also be essential.

As Geographers we will investigate how climate change is impacting on the wider world and debate if anything can be done to stop global warming. We will also be looking at different counties and countries in the UK and investigate the difference between settlements - such as villages, towns and cities.

As Historians we will learn about the Stone Age and its significance in the development of the human race. We will investigate what prehistoric Britain was like and compare it to other ages in history, such as the Bronze Age. We will also learn about one of the world's most famous monuments - Stonehenge.

As Scientists we will explore the field of geology identifying, grouping and comparing the rocks that make up the foundations of the Earth. Furthermore, we will ask ourselves what is soil? We will also discover the secrets of animals trapped inside rocks that form fossils. At the end of this topic, we will find out the benefits of having a skeleton.

Across the curriculum

- As Athletes we will** be consolidating our balance and movement skills in gymnastics, as well as developing our swimming technique.
- As Theologians we will** explore the concept of community and learn about important buildings and special places. We will also learn about the life of Jesus.
- As members of our community we will** try to understand changes in our lives and appreciate that some changes are necessary at school and at home.
- As Musicians we will** be listening to the song *Changes* by David Bowie and analyse the lyrics of this famous song. We will also be listening to the Renaissance music of the 15th and 16th centuries.
- As speakers of French we will** explore the beginnings of language as we greet each other, count, sing our first French songs and read our first French books.
- As Artists we will** re-create Stone Age cave paintings - exploring *how* they painted and what materials they used.
- As Computer Programmers we will** search the internet safely to research the Stone Age and present our findings using presentation software.
- As Design Technologists we will** create our own Stone Age Tools out of different materials, as well as making replica Stone Age huts by participating in den building.

Knowledge of the World

Where did humans originate from? We will research the 2.8 million year jawbone recently discovered in Ethiopia to try and establish the hard facts.

The Arts and Sports

What do the cave paintings and sculptures of the Stone Age tell us about this civilisation? What can we learn about these prehistoric people from their art?

Enquiry

In your opinion, does Stanley Kubrick's *The Dawn of Man* accurately reflect the reality of human evolution? We will debate this fascinating question.

Ambition and Possibilities

What would it be like to live in the Stone Age? Would we be able to survive if we had to travel back in time?