



Year 3 - The Dawn of Mankind Autumn Term



As Language Specialists we will be reading a variety of texts with Stone Age themes. In our writing we will explore *Stone Age Boy* by Satoshi Kitamura, *How to Wash a Woolly Mammoth* by Michelle Robinson and *Minnow and the Bear* by Benedict Blathwayt. We will be inspired by the inventions of *Ug: Boy Genius of the Stone Age* by Raymond Briggs and the discoveries of Mary Anning in *The Fossil Girl* by Catherine Brighton. As a class we will listen to *Stig of the Dump* by Clive King and the modern story of *Ice Monster* by David Walliams. Finally, the Hanna-Barbera masterpiece *The Flintstones* will bring a light-hearted, if somewhat inaccurate, perspective on Stone Age life, as will the film *The Croods*.

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. 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? Digging down we will investigate the layers of the earth and linking the type of rock to its origin. We will also discover the secrets of animals trapped inside rocks that form fossils.

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 fundamentals of place value. We will consolidate our understanding of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division, and apply our calculation skills to a range of problem-solving activities. We will begin to learn our 3 times tables with the corresponding division facts and refresh our knowledge of the 2, 5 and 10 times tables. We will be developing our rapid recall of all number bonds to 20.

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 ask 'what kind of world did Jesus want?' and will investigate what Christians learn from the Creation Story.
- As members of our community** we will try to understand how to live a healthy lifestyle and how to recognise the impact our behaviour can have on others.
- As Musicians** we will be listening to the classical music of Mozart and drawing comparisons to modern music. We will also be developing our singing skills together and trying out some Gregorian chants.
- 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 learn about our class artist and produce work inspired by their famous paintings. We will also each create a piece of Stone Age cave wall, decorated in our own unique design. We will explore how cave walls were painted and what materials were 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 stew out of fruit and berries, 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 3.8 million year old jawbone recently discovered in Ethiopia.

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
If the Stone Age was such a long time ago, how do we possibly know so much about it?

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?