

YEAR 3 THE IRON AGE



THE IRON AGE

The Iron Age was a time in history when people started using iron to make tools and weapons. It began around 3,000 years ago and lasted until the Romans came to Britain. People in the Iron Age lived in small villages and worked hard to grow food, build homes, and protect themselves. Let us explore what life was like during this interesting time.

WHAT IS IRON?

Iron is a strong metal that is found in the Earth. Before the Iron Age, people used other materials like stone and bronze to make tools. Iron was a better material because it is much stronger and sharper, which helped people make better tools and weapons.

HOW DID PEOPLE LIVE?

People in the Iron Age lived in small villages. They built round houses with straw roofs. These homes were made from wood and had walls of wattle and daub, a mixture of wood, mud, and straw. Inside, the houses had a fire in the middle to keep warm and cook food.

FARMING IN THE IRON AGE

Farming was very important in the Iron Age. People grew crops like wheat, barley, and oats. They also raised animals such as cows, sheep, and pigs for food. Some families had small farms, while others worked together in large groups. The Iron Age people used ploughs made of wood, pulled by oxen, to help them grow food.

IRON TOOLS AND WEAPONS

One of the most important inventions of the Iron Age was the iron plough. This tool helped farmers work the land more easily. People also used iron to make better weapons, like swords, knives, and shields. These weapons helped protect villages from attacks and also helped hunters catch food.



CLOTHING AND JEWELLERY

Iron Age people wore simple clothes made from wool and leather. They used animal skins to make coats, and the wool from sheep to make clothes like tunics. Iron Age people also enjoyed making jewellery from metal, beads, and stones. They often wore necklaces, bracelets, and brooches to decorate themselves.

CELTIC TRIBES

In Britain, many of the people living during the Iron Age were part of Celtic tribes. These tribes were groups of people who shared the same language and culture. They lived in different parts of Britain, and each tribe had its own leader. Some tribes built strong hill forts to keep safe from enemies. These forts were built on hills so that people could see if anyone was coming.

WHAT HAPPENED AFTER THE IRON AGE?

The Iron Age ended when the Romans came to Britain in 43 AD. The Romans brought new ideas, including better ways of building and new technology. Although the Iron Age ended, the people and their way of life have left us many clues about what life was like long ago.

FUN FACTS ABOUT THE IRON AGE

1. People in the Iron Age used fire to cook food, stay warm, and make iron.
2. Some of the best iron tools were made by blacksmiths, people who worked with metal.
3. Iron Age people did not have many of the things we use today, like cars or computers, but they were very clever at using what they had to survive.

The Iron Age was an important time in history, and although life was very different from today, the people of that time helped shape the world we live in now.

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[Iron Age Facts for Kids](#)

EXAMPLE QUESTIONS:

1. What material did people start using in the Iron Age to make tools and weapons?
2. How did people in the Iron Age build their houses?
3. What were some of the crops grown during the Iron Age?
4. Why was iron better than other materials like stone and bronze for making tools and weapons?
5. What is a hill fort, and why did some Iron Age tribes build them?

