

## Stone Age

Full day

Key Stage 2

### Summary of Day

Children will embark on a Stone Age Survival Day where they will learn how Stone Age people survived during that era by handling and identifying various Stone Age tools and discussing the essential needs for survival. They will engage in team-building activities such as building a shelter using natural materials or practicing fire lighting techniques. In the afternoon, teams will create Stone Age-inspired crafts like pottery and cave paintings, exploring their significance in Stone Age culture. The day will conclude with a recap of activities, showcasing the shelters, fires, and crafts created by the teams, and reflecting on the skills and knowledge gained about Stone Age life.

### Learning objectives

- Understanding the daily life and survival strategies of Stone Age
- Identifying and using Stone Age tools.
- Developing teamwork and problem-solving skills.
- Expressing creativity through Stone Age crafts.

### Key Vocabulary

Artefact  
Survival  
Shelter  
Fire Lighting  
Pottery  
Cave Painting  
Flint  
Gatherer  
Palaeolithic  
Mesolithic  
Neolithic  
Stonehenge  
Archaeologist  
Prehistory  
Agriculture  
Forage  
Nomadic  
Domestication

Some children may learn:  
Microlith  
Sedentary  
Aurochs  
Ochre

## Prior Learning

No prior learning is essential for children to take part in this day.

To maximise children's learning during their visit, it would be beneficial for them to:

- Familiarity with different methods of making fire, such as using flint and steel or friction (e.g., rubbing sticks together).
- Knowledge of the types of shelters used by Stone Age people, such as caves, huts, and temporary shelters made from natural materials.
- Understanding the materials and methods used to create cave paintings, such as natural pigments and brushes made from animal hair.
- Familiarity with common Stone Age artefacts, such as tools, pottery, and jewellery.

## Example outline of the day

<b>Approx 10 am</b>	Arrive / Introduction to Gatton / Safety talk
<b>10.15 – 10.30</b>	Each group will receive a basket containing replicas of Stone Age artefacts to examine and identify. Gatton staff will discuss how these artefacts are discovered, preserved, and studied by archaeologists.
<b>10.30 – 12noon</b>	<b>Option 1: Fire and materials</b> During the fire lighting session, Gatton staff will explain the essential elements needed to create a fire and introduce various natural materials that can be used as alternatives. Following this, the children will work in groups to practice and learn the skills required to start a fire. or <b>Option 2: Den Building</b> During the den building session, Gatton staff will explain the importance of shelter for Stone Age people and how they constructed their shelters. Following this, the children will have the opportunity to build their own Stone Age shelters. Or <b>Option 3: Craft</b> Gatton staff will introduce children to the natural materials used by Stone Age people to create art. First, the children will learn how to use charcoal, chalk, and clay for colouring and how to grind these materials. Next, they will paint on slate, mimicking the cave paintings of the Stone Age. Following this, they will explore crafts such as pottery, jewellery making, and weaving hurdles.
<b>12.00 – 12.30</b>	Lunch
<b>12.35 – 2.15</b>	Any option selected from the three activities mentioned above
<b>2.15 – 2.30</b>	Prepare for departure

## Assessment Opportunities

Gatton Staff will assess progress throughout the day by open ended questioning and plenary session.

Information for the group leader		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outdoor clothing &amp; sturdy footwear / wellies are advised</li> <li>• Please note this day will go ahead in most weather conditions. However alternative bad weather activities are available at the Centre if necessary.</li> <li>• Centre Risk Assessments are available for those who come on a pre visit, these may be used to write your own risk assessments in accordance with your school's requirements.</li> </ul>		
Post Visit learning opportunities		
<p>Create a timeline of the Stone Age, marking significant events and developments.</p> <p>Explore how early humans might have communicated without written language. Investigate leaf litter and rotting wood.</p> <p>Discuss how Stone Age people interacted with their environment and the impact they had on it</p>		
Differentiation	Access	Adult Participation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adults to encourage participation and give support as appropriate</li> <li>• Specific adjustments can be made to suit individual needs in conjunction with the class teacher</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Large worksheets can be provided with prior notice.</li> <li>• Different learning styles considered throughout the day.</li> <li>• Please inform us in advance if any of your students have limited mobility.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adults to encourage participation and give support as appropriate during practical tasks.</li> <li>• Adults to accompany each group during the activities.</li> </ul>
Resources		
<p>All resources for the day are provided by Gatton Park</p>		