

Topic: Bronze Age to Iron Age

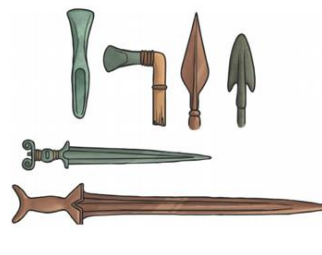
Key Vocabulary

★ bronze	A metal alloy made from a mixture of copper and tin. It is a much harder and more long-lasting material than stone or copper alone.
★ roundhouse	A circular shaped house with a thatched roof. These could be very large and would have housed many people.
★ tribe	A group of people, often related through family, culture and language, usually with one leader.
★ farming	The activity of growing plants and looking after animals.
★ Beaker people	A group of people that arrived in Britain during the Bronze Age. They were known for their bell shaped pottery.
★ hillfort	A fort built on a hill with banks and ditches to protect it. A hillfort could have been home to hundreds of people.
★ iron	A metal that is stronger and harder than bronze.
★ Celt	A modern term for the people living in Europe during the Iron Age. The 'Celts' were made up of many different tribes.

Key Bronze Age Facts

- In Britain, the Bronze Age started around 2,100BC.
- Bronze is an alloy or mixture of tin and copper.
- Bronze was used to make a greater range of tools and weapons than people had during the Stone Age.
- People cleared forests so they had space for large farms and fields that were separated by walls.
- The invention of the wheel meant that animal-drawn vehicles could drive along tracks and roads.
- The potter's wheel and fabric making meant that better pottery and clothing could be produced.
- Metal workers and those who traded in metals were probably the most important and wealthiest people in Bronze Age society.

Beaker pottery



bronze tools
and weapons



roundhouse

Key Iron Age Facts

- Around 800BC, people in Britain learned how to use iron.
- Iron tools made farming much easier than before and settlements grew in size.
- Iron Age farmers grew crops and vegetables. They kept geese, goats and pigs and had large herds of cows and flocks of sheep.
- Men and boys *trained as warriors*. They had to be prepared to fight at any time.
- Iron Age Britain was a *violent place*. People lived in *clans* that belonged to *tribes led by warrior kings*. Rival tribes fought with deadly iron weapons. Many people lived in *hill forts* to keep safe from attacks.
- The forts were surrounded by *walls and ditches* and warriors defended their people from enemy attacks.
- The ancient Britons followed a *Celtic way of life*. They produced fine metalwork and enjoyed *feasting, music and poetry*.



armour and shields



swords, daggers
and arrow heads

farming



hillforts



Celts