



Session Outline: Stone Age Survival Year 3-4

National curriculum: This day supports the history curriculum ‘changes in Britain from the Stone age to the Iron age’ by providing an experience of using stone age skills in a natural setting. The children should come prepared to get muddy and try out some new experiences.

Learning objectives	Session structure	
<p>How humans lived in the stone age for most of their existence</p> <p>What materials would and would not have been available in the stone age</p> <p>To experience first-hand what it would have been like doing practical tasks in the Neolithic period</p> <p>To experience what it would have been like to go on a hunting trip.</p> <p>To appreciate that stone age ancestors had detailed knowledge of the natural world and were skilled at using this to help them thrive</p>	<p>Introduction What do we mean by the stone age? Time line of the stone age covering technological innovations and evolution of hominids.</p> <p>Split into 2 groups, each group doing the activities below either in the morning or afternoon</p> <p>Neolithic Camp life: arriving at camp We discuss how, in the absence of shops, stone age communities would have to be able to provide for their needs by having an intimate knowledge of the natural environment and show some examples. We arrive at our campground and light a fire, discussing stone age fire lighting techniques, and create shelters in the woods. We then demonstrate preparation of fish for cooking by gutting a fish and also put some bread by the fire to be cooked. Children then have a go at making some stone age style pottery.</p> <p>While we wait for the fish and bread to cook the children can choose between having a go at</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • String making • Grinding seeds • Net making • Creating sharpened sticks using abrasion <p>We finish by sharing our stone age feast of bread and fish.</p> <p>Mesolithic Hunting trip The children join us for a hunting trip to find food for our survival. Children practice developing the skills that their ancestors needed to be able to hunt: observation, sneaking and hiding from their prey. They then go on a hunt using throwing sticks.</p>	
Before your visit	After your visit	Key vocabulary
<p>Discuss what ‘stone age’ means.</p>	<p>Reflect on the different skills that the children practiced. What other skills would people in the stone age have needed to survive and thrive? (Making clothes, needles, thread, identifying thousands of plants and their uses, edibles, non edibles, knowing how to extract useful properties from natural materials, animal identification and behaviour, medicine...)</p> <p>Can people nowadays hunt and forage for their food, build their own houses, make their own clothes etc? Could everybody?</p>	<p>Neolithic Mesolithic Evolution Grind Forage</p>

