

Year Group: 2/3

Unit: Bronze Age to the Iron Age

Subject: History

How did life change when people moved from using bronze to using iron?



FROM THE BRONZE AGE TO THE IRON AGE

Year 2/3 History

BIG QUESTION: How did life change when people moved from using bronze to using iron?



TIMELINE

2100 BC	2500–800 BC	1200–800 BC	800 BC	AD 43
Bronze was first used in Britain.	Bronze tools and weapons became more advanced.	Celtic tribes began to emerge.	The Bronze Age ended and the Iron Age began.	Romans invaded Britain, ending the Iron Age.

WHAT CHANGED?

BRONZE AGE	IRON AGE
People made tools and weapons from bronze (copper and tin).	People started using iron, which was stronger and easier to work with.
Most people lived in small farming communities.	People often lived together in large hillforts.
Houses were rectangular or early roundhouses made from wattle and daub.	Roundhouses became the typical home.
Bronze weapons included axes, daggers and spearheads.	Celtic warriors used iron swords and shields.
Celtic culture was beginning to develop.	The Celts became the main group living in Britain.

HOMES THROUGH TIME

BRONZE AGE



- Houses were made from timber, thatch and wattle and daub.
- Around 6–10 people lived together.
- Roundhouses became more common after 1500 BC.



IRON AGE



- Most people lived in roundhouses.
- Houses had a timber frame, wattle and daub walls and a thatched roof.
- A fire in the centre provided heat, light and cooking.



KEY PEOPLE

BELL BEAKER PEOPLE (BRONZE AGE)



- Migrated to Britain from Europe.
- Thought to have brought bronze-working skills.
- Known for their bell-shaped pottery.

CELTS (IRON AGE)



- The name given to people living in Britain and Europe during the Iron Age.
- Lived in tribes and hillfort communities.

KEY VOCABULARY

Bronze	A metal made from copper and tin.
Iron	A strong metal used for tools and weapons.
Celt	A person who lived in Europe during the Iron Age.
Hillfort	A defended settlement built on a hill.
Roundhouse	A circular home with a thatched roof.
Wattle and Daub	Building material made from woven sticks and clay, straw or manure.
Migrate	To move from one place to another.
Archaeologist	A person who studies artefacts and remains from the past.

FARMING AND FOOD

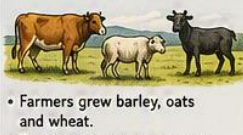
BRONZE AGE



- Farming was a very important part of life.
- People moved to valleys where crops grew more easily.



IRON AGE



- Farmers grew barley, oats and wheat.
- They kept cows, sheep, pigs and goats.
- They also hunted deer, wild boar and fish and gathered berries and nuts.



HOW DID THE BRONZE AGE SPREAD AROUND THE WORLD?

3600–3500 BC	Bronze used as farm tools and weapons in the Middle East.	
3500–3001 BC	Bronze started being used in eastern Europe and the Mediterranean.	
2500–2300 BC	Bronze used in India and China.	
2100 BC	Bronze used in Britain to make weapons and tools.	

THE BEAKER CULTURE

Some of the people who migrated to Britain were known as the 'Bell Beaker People'.



The pots were used for drinking from or to smelt copper, store food or to use as urns.



It was thought that Bronze was first brought into Britain by the Bell Beaker People.



Intricate pottery would show someone's wealth and status.



They were named this after the distinctive bell-shaped pottery that was decorated with impressions made from a comb or cord.



The Bell Beaker People also introduced different types of weapons and jewellery into Britain.



REMEMBER!

- ✓ The Bronze Age began when people learned to make bronze tools and weapons.
- ✓ Around 800 BC, people started using iron, beginning the Iron Age.
- ✓ Iron was stronger than bronze, helping people make better tools, weapons and farming equipment.
- ✓ Many ways of life continued, such as farming, living in roundhouses and using wattle and daub for building.

KEY LEARNING

The transition from the Bronze Age to the Iron Age was not a sudden change. People kept many of their old ways of life, but new iron technology helped communities grow and develop.





FROM THE BRONZE AGE TO THE IRON AGE



HOW DID LIFE CHANGE?

BRONZE AGE



IRON AGE



AROUND
800 BC
BRONZE AGE
ENDED AND
THE IRON AGE
BEGAN.

NAME:

SUBJECT:

CLASS: