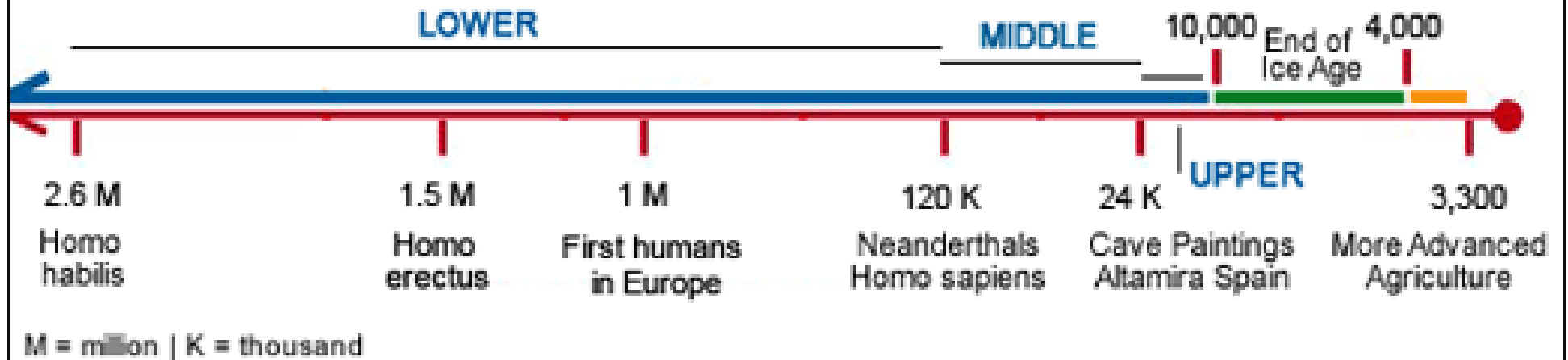


STONE AGE

PALEOLITHIC MESOLITHIC NEOLITHIC



Found on the **Orkney Islands** off the north of **Scotland**, Skara Brae is a one of Britain's most fascinating **prehistoric villages**. Archeologists estimate it was built and occupied between **3000BCE** and **2500BCE**, during what's called the '**Neolithic era**' or '**New Stone Age**'. The village is **older than the pyramids and Stonehenge**, in fact!

Stonehenge was found on England's **Salisbury Plain** in **Wiltshire**. It is a **huge man-made circle** of standing stones. Built by our ancestors over many hundreds of years, it's one of the **world's most famous prehistoric monuments**... And one of it's biggest mysteries, too



Stonehenge



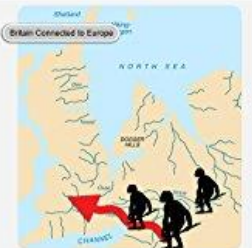
Skara Brae

STONE AGE

Palaeolithic (Old Stone Age) B

500,000 BC

The Stone Age lasted for a very long period of time! It stretches from the very beginnings of humanity three million years ago, to the farmers that lived a few thousand years ago. The reason it's called the Stone Age is because during this time, the people used tools made out of stone!



500,000 BC
The first people arrive in Britain.
Early humans migrate into Britain from Europe. They walk over the land, as at this time Britain was connected to European land.

KEY VOCABULARY

Chronology - The arrangement of dates or events in the order in which they occurred.

BC - Before Christ. A way of dating years before the birth of Jesus. The bigger the number BC, the longer ago in history it was.

AD Anno Domini - "in the year of our Lord". AD is used to show dates after the birth of Jesus. This year is AD 2018.

Archaeology - The study of the buildings, graves, tools and other objects that belonged to people who lived in the past, in order to learn about their culture and society.

Historical evidence - Anything left over from the past is a source of evidence.

Hunter-gatherers - People who found food from their local environment and then moved from site to site depending on the season. They moved wherever they needed to get food from.

Farmers - The Neolithic or new Stone Age saw the beginnings of agriculture.

Animals such as the cow and sheep were domesticated and provided a ready supply of meat, milk, wool, leather and bone.

Grain was the first food that could be stored for long periods of time.

The Stone Age



The Stone Age is divided into three periods: The **Palaeolithic Age** was the longest period in the history of the Stone Age. The **Mesolithic Age** began with the end of the Ice Age in 9600 BC. During this period, humans adopted different techniques of hunting, fishing and gathering food. With the end of the Mesolithic Age, the **Neolithic Age** started. The humans formed settled communities, and domesticated plants and animals for the first time in history.

Stone Age hunter-gatherers had to catch or find everything they ate. They moved from place to place in search of food. Early Stone Age people hunted with **sharpened sticks**. Later, they used **bows and arrows** and **spears** tipped with flint or bone. People gathered nuts and fruits and dug up roots. They went fishing using **nets** and **harpoons**. Stone Age people cut up their food with sharpened stones and **cooked it on a fire**. They used **animal skins** to make clothes and shelters.

DID YOU KNOW...?

The **dog** was the first animal to be domesticated. This happened during the Mesolithic period. Dogs could help with the hunt, warn of danger and provide warmth and comfort.