Prehistoric Britain

The Big Picture



Britain became an island.
The first homo sapiens lived.
The first Neanderthals lived.
Ice Age began.

The Earth was formed billions of years ago. The dinosaurs lived a very long time ago but died out before any human animals – like Neanderthals or *homo* sapiens like us – walked the Earth.

Changes from Stone Age to Iron Age

Stone Age

Bronze Age Iron Age

Palaeolithic

Mesolithic Ne





Hunter-gatherers hunted animals and gathered fruits and nuts.

Communities were smaller.

Settlements were temporary and people lived a nomadic lifestyle, moving in search of food to hunt and gather.



People started to farm the land and keep animals for food.

Communities were larger.

Settlements were more permanent, centred around farm land.

Many prehistoric Britons held spiritual beliefs about the natural world and built stone circles and hill forts that lined up with the Sun's movements.