



Year 3 and 4 Knowledge Organiser - The Bronze Age



Key vocab		The Bronze Age, the period immediately after the Stone Age, is the time when metals like bronze (made by heating a mix of tin and copper in a furnace) started to be commonly used. Metalworking was not the only significant change during the Bronze Age; methods of writing, the invention of the wheel and systems of irrigation are other developments that took place in this period. This very significant era in history began at different times throughout the world, starting in Britain in approximately 2100 BCE. Well preserved metal artefacts have also provided us with lots of evidence of how connected societies were in these ancient times.	
societies:	people living together in organised groups		
ancient:	from a long time ago		
trade:	buy, sell or exchange goods	Sticky Knowledge	
custom:	a traditional way of doing something	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bronze Age people began to travel great distances to trade with other settlements. Copper and tin (the metals need to make bronze) were very valuable and were exchanged across Britain and Europe. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> By using historical evidence, we can tell when and where different societies began the Bronze Age. Evidence and artefacts can also tell us about religious beliefs, traditions and culture.
hoard:	a secret store of valuable items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> People used large wooden boats to carry metal, pots, jewellery, food and animals across the English Channel and the North Sea. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The discovery of the Amesbury Archer at Amesbury, in Wiltshire, helped historians prove that the metalworking skills of the Bronze Age were brought here by people who had travelled from mainland Europe.
archaeologists:	people who study the past by examining remains and objects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Bronze Age first saw the custom of burying people in single graves, instead of the communal ones common in Stone Age times. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> They came to live and work in Britain, and had a significant influence on the culture, beliefs and pastimes of the people there.
preserved:	kept in its original state	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> By the end of the Bronze Age, people had begun cremating the dead, saving their ashes in small pots called urns. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We know this because of the metalwork and other remains found at burial sites and ancient settlements across Britain.
intricate:	with many small parts and details	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The famous prehistoric stone circle, Stonehenge, was built over many hundreds of years. Work began in the late Stone Age, around 3000 BC. The last changes were made in the early Bronze Age, around 1500 BCE. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Bronze Age was a time of significant change in people's religious beliefs. The Beaker people, from central Europe, brought Bronze Age technology to Britain.
communal:	shared by a group of people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Many hoards of bronze and gold artefacts dating back to the Bronze Age have been found in Britain. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In the Bronze Age, burial mounds (called barrows) were made in the style of the Beaker culture.
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Axes, swords, buttons, brooches and more have given us clues as to what life was like for these ancient people. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Only one important person was buried in a Bronze Age barrow. The objects that were buried with the body, such as pottery, cups, jewellery, and precious metals, give historians important clues about the time period.

Exciting books!



