

Term 4 History

Week 2

Our new topic is

Rock 'n 'Roll

History

Stone Age to Iron Age

WALT communicate my history
knowledge and understanding

S2S

I can

show my knowledge of Stone Age dwellings through a
model

Role play diet/survival during the Stone Age
discuss small details using artefacts

Remote learning

- Your child will get the opportunity to handle and discuss artefacts once they are back in school so please don't worry about this element of today's lesson.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fDDlhCtIdQ4)

[DDlhCtIdQ4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fDDlhCtIdQ4)



Discuss

- What do homes look like today?
- What is important when it comes to building a house?

**What shelter might early humans have found or made
in Britain?**

What materials would they have had available?

- What evidence do we have?
- How do archaeologists find evidence?
- Do you think houses were all the same, why?

What type of houses did they live in?

This depended on the time, and the country.
In Britain, archaeologists have found evidence of four different types of dwelling.





During the Palaeolithic time period when the ice came, some early humans sheltered from the cold in caves.

Why build your own house when there's one already available?

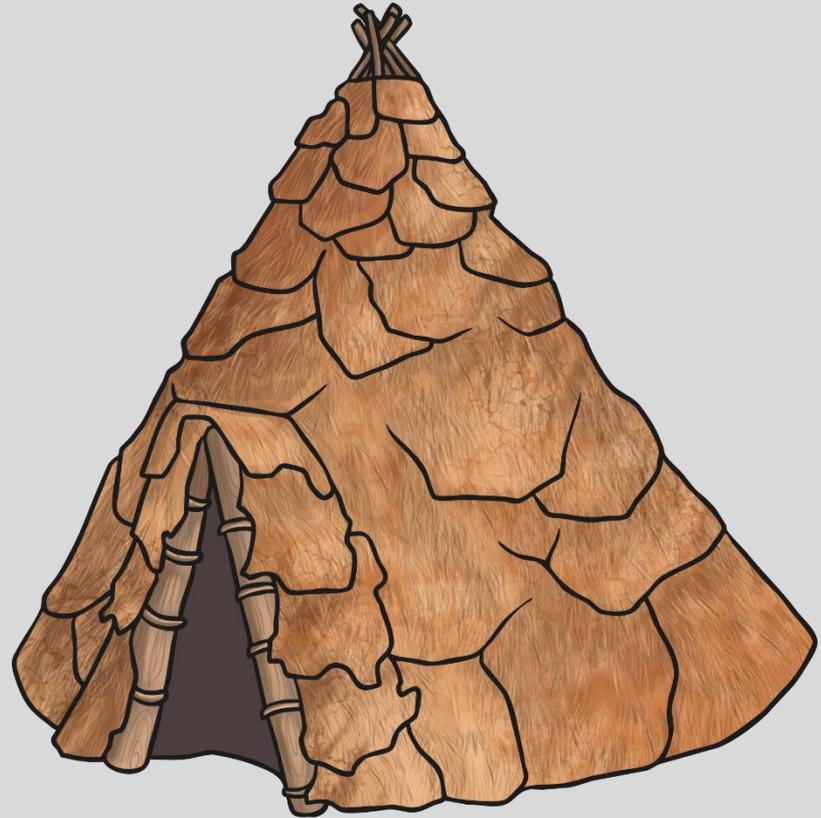
Evidence found in Howick from Mesolithic times indicates a circular structure made from wooden posts.

There are no existing houses remaining but archaeologists have found marks in the ground that they believe were made from the timber poles.

The frame may have been round, or conical like a teepee.

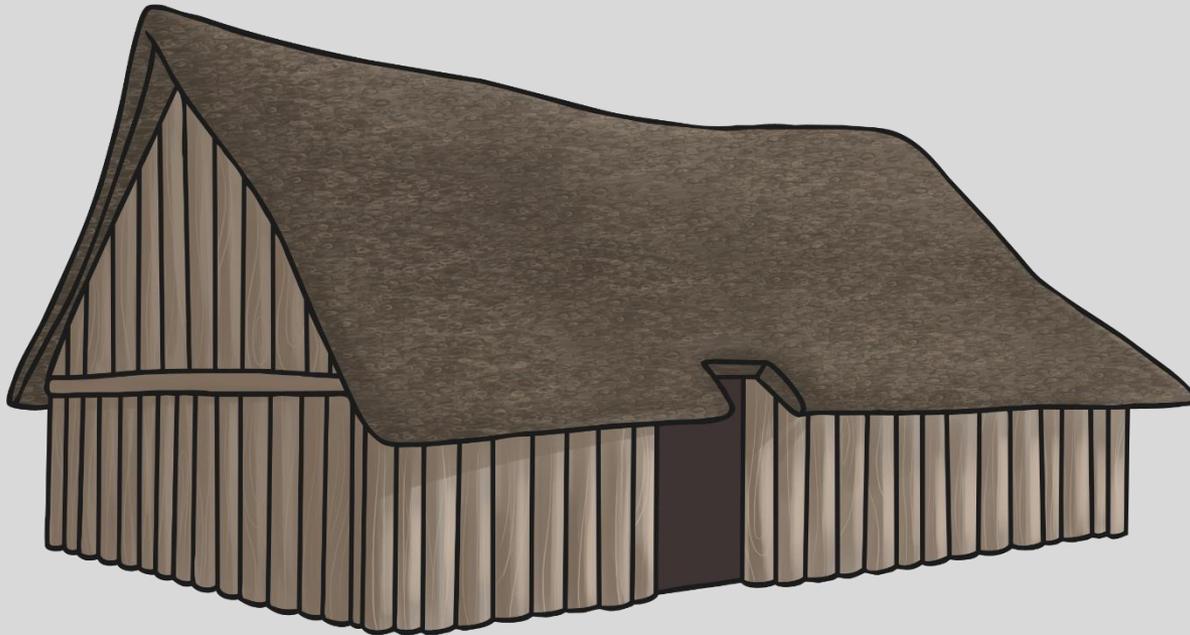
They may have used animal skin, thatch or turf to cover the frame.

There was evidence that the floor was covered with a layer of moss, reeds and other soft plant materials.



Evidence suggests that houses were usually rectangular and constructed from timber in the Neolithic period.

None of these houses remain but we can see the foundations. Some houses used **wattle and daub** for walls and thatched roofs.



wattle and daub: a mixture of manure, clay, mud and hay stuck to sticks that have been woven in and out of the timber frame.

Some houses in the Neolithic period, like those uncovered at Skara Brae, were built from stones.

They were built into mounds of rubbish known as midden. This could include small stones, shells, mud and animal bones.

It would provide some stability as well as insulation.

These houses were usually round.

They had beds and storage shelves, and a hearth in the middle.



None of the houses still have a roof, so they must have been made from something that has since perished.

A common early roofing material in Orkney was seaweed, fixed with ropes and stones.

They could also have used straw, animal skins or turf, laid over a frame of driftwood or whale bones found on the sea shore.



Activity



Stone Age Homes

Name:.....Date:.....

Draw a diagram in each box and label the materials used to construct the houses.

Typical Palaeolithic home:

Typical Neolithic home:

Typical Mesolithic home:

Home in Skara Brae: (Neolithic)

Example



Stone Age Homes

Name: Date:

Draw a diagram in each box and label the materials used to construct the houses.

Typical Palaeolithic home:

Typical Neolithic home:

Typical Mesolithic home:

Home in Skara Brae: (Neolithic)



Your turn

- Now have a go at making a model that represents one of the homes/dwellings we have learnt about today.
- You might not have the resources you would like to use but remember it is a model and you can use different things to represent the features of your dwelling.
- Example
- Brown paper - animal hide
- Mud for the walls

- What similarities and differences are there between Stone Age homes/dwellings and those we live in today?

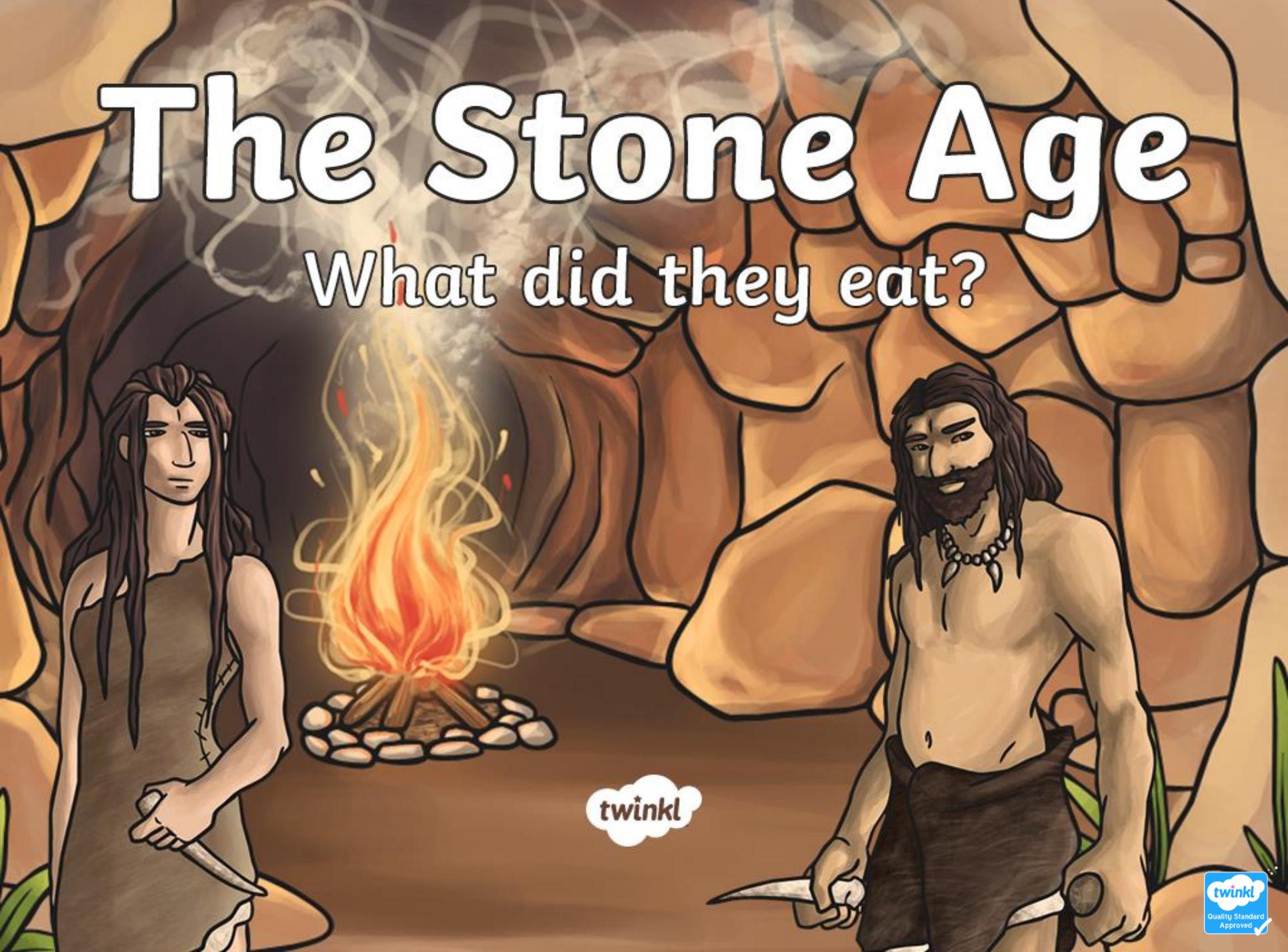
Lots of photographs please for our
display in school

- Pass the artefacts round and discuss
Use your senses and imagine how they were used



The Stone Age

What did they eat?



Hunter-gatherers

For early humans, their survival depended on finding food.

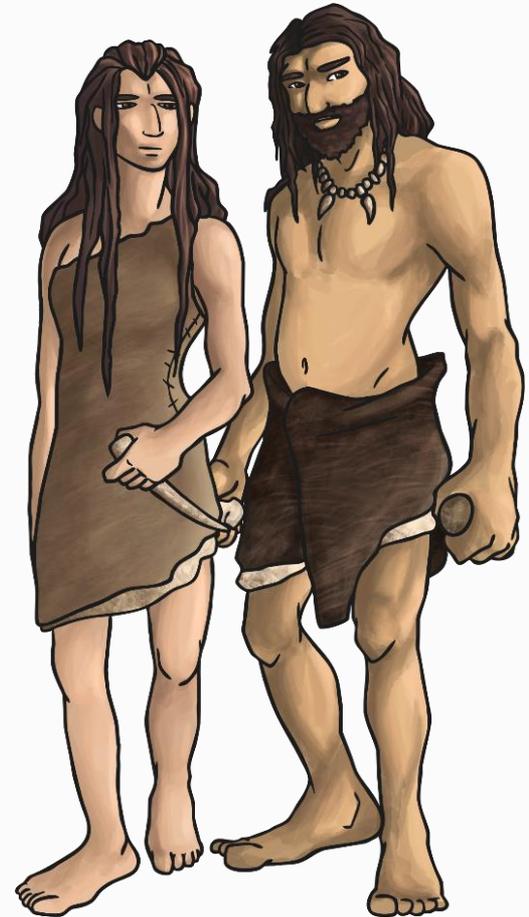
We call them hunter-gatherers because they had to hunt animals and fish and gather wild food.

It wasn't until the Neolithic period that they grew and raised their own food.

They would hunt whatever animals they could find.

In Britain during the Stone Age this could have been horses, deer, mammoth, hares, rhino and hyena.

Also, from rivers and the sea they would hunt seals, seabirds and fish.



Weapons

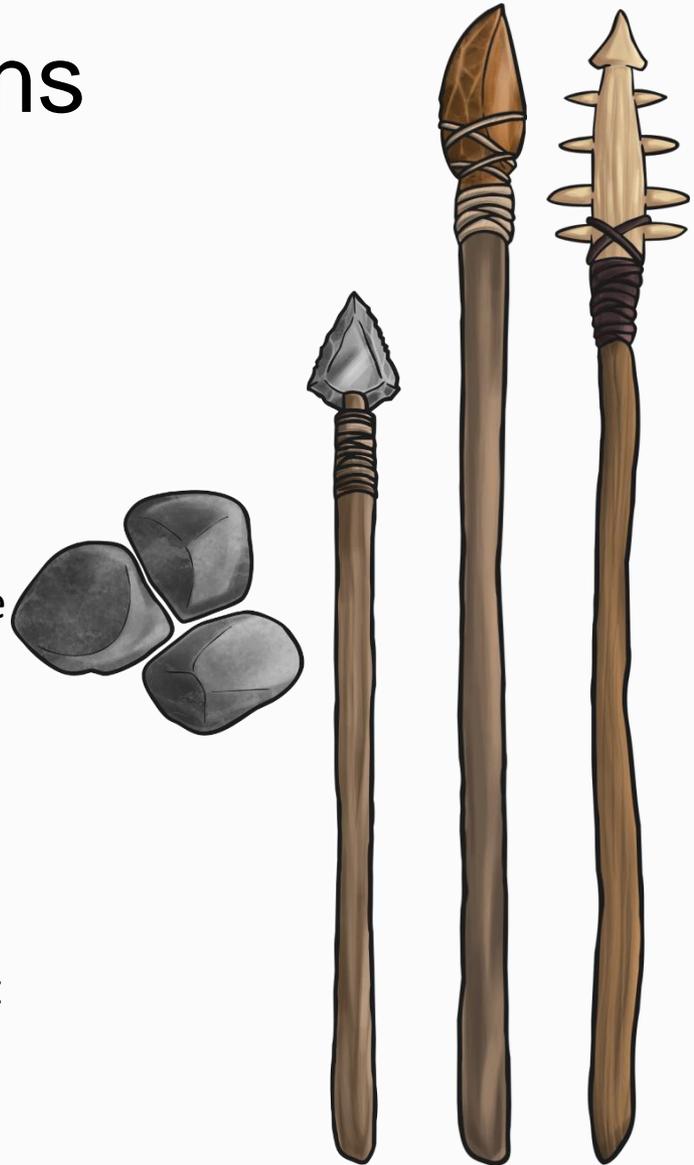
The hunters used different weapons to kill their food.

These could be made from bone, ivory, wood, antlers, stone or flint.

The first early humans used stone axes, rocks and wooden spears that were hardened at the tips with fire.

Later, spears were developed that had sharp bone or flint tips.

Spear throwers meant that spears could be thrown further and with more force, making it possible to kill or wound an animal from a safer distance.



Weapons

For spearing fish, hunters would carve barbs into antlers to make a harpoon that would stick in the flesh of the fish.



These would be attached to the end of spears.

Weapons

Smaller forest animals
were hunted with bow
and arrows.

By around 12,000 BC
hunters were using dogs
to help in the chase.



The Hunt

To catch animals that were larger and quicker than them, hunters had to be clever.

They found out where the animals went to drink, or where they crossed rivers, so they could attack when they were most vulnerable.

They would pick out the animals that looked weaker.

Animals could also be caught in snares or carefully set out traps.



The Hunt

Often, hunters would work together to stampede a herd of animals into a ravine, or a swamp, where they were easier to attack.

They used stones to build walls in a funnel shape that led to a cliff edge and then stampeded the animals between the walls and straight over the cliff.

Skeletons of over 10,000 wild horses have been found at the bottom of a cliff in France. Hunters probably crept up and scared the animals, who ran to their deaths.



Weapons

One big kill could feed a family for months.
Every part of a kill was used.

- The meat was cooked for food or dried to preserve it for eating later.
- They would eat absolutely everything including the blood, feet and brain.
- Bones would be made into tools and weapons.
- Bones could also be smashed so the marrow could be eaten from the inside. Marrow is high in fat and would have been a good energy source.
- Animal hides were made into clothes.
- The fat could be used in lamps.
- Antlers were also made into tools and weapons.



Did you know? Some archaeologists believe that early humans would have cut open the stomach of an animal and eaten their last meal!

Cooking

There is evidence that early humans started using fire in Britain up to 400,000 thousand years ago.

Today we have many different ways to cook food, and different appliances to use.

They still managed some variety back then.

The meat was grilled or roasted on a spit.

Meat was wrapped in straw or leather and secured with a twig or straw rope. This was put into a pot of water that was heated by dropping in red hot stones that had been heated in a fire.

A trough or pit would be heated with fire and lined with hot stones. The meat would be put inside and covered with more hot stones.

Gathering

- The Stone Age diet would have varied according to what was locally available.
- They had access to a wide variety of natural foods like seeds, berries, nuts and roots and knew which plants were safe to eat.
- They would gather eggs as well as insects, snails and caterpillars.
- Herbs were used to flavour food as they are today.

Sunflower seeds



Nettle leaves



Hazelnuts



Gathering



Juniper Berries



Mussels

The Woods

Wild nuts and berries were available in great quantities in the woods. Nuts were particularly good because they could be easily stored.

The Seashore

Mussels, cockles, whelks, crabs, oysters, lobsters and other seafood provided a source of food all year round.

Gathering

Around 4000 BC people in Britain started growing their own crops such as barley and wheat.

This was possible because the climate had changed and there was more rain. They also kept sheep and goats.

It was the first time they had controlled their food sources and it meant that they could stay in one place and form settlements.

Tools

Early cave paintings show animals being used to pull ploughs to turn over the earth ready for planting.

Axes and sickles were made from flint to clear ground and harvest crops.

Grain was put on the flat surface of the quern and a stone called a 'rubber' was used to grind the grain into flour.



Stewed Fruit

Early humans would cook fruit to preserve it.

Why don't you try cooking up some fruits and nuts? Hazelnuts with any kind of berries would work.

Stir them together, add honey and slowly bring to the boil. Simmer for 20 minutes then leave to cool.



Photo courtesy of Clinton ndrwegg@flickr.com- granted under creative commons licence - attribution

Role play being a hunter gatherer

Hide picture of plants and animals (pdf supplied you can print) around your garden or home to hunt or gather

Nettle



It can be used to make tea.
It can make nettle soup.
It can also be used as a medicine. They can be harvested in the spring.

Blackberries



Blackberries contain vitamin C and they can be harvested in autumn.

Dandelion



Dandelions are high in vitamin C.
The best time to gather them is in spring.

Haws (Hawthorn)



Hawthorn needs to be cooked before eating.
Leaves are safe and can be harvested in May. The fleshy part of berries is safe, but remove the seeds, as they contain cyanide. The berries are ripe around September/October.

Pine Kernels

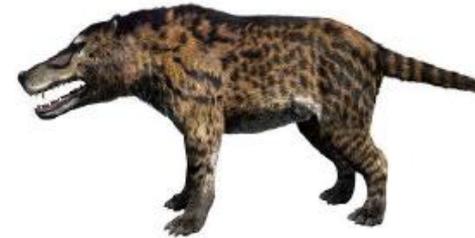


The seeds from pine kernels are high in protein. They are in season during autumn.

Elderberries



Elderberries are high in vitamin C.
They can be gathered in summer.



Copy supplied

Stone Age Survival – Seasons Wheel

Draw or stick a picture of the food you gathered or hunted on to the correct season on the plate.

- In which seasons were you able to gather the greatest variety of food?
- You can hunt animals all year round. When do you think it would be easiest to hunt them? When would it be most difficult? Do you think the animals would migrate? Would this be a problem for stone-age hunter-gatherers? Using what you have learnt, write the name of the stone-age animal in the best season to hunt it.

