

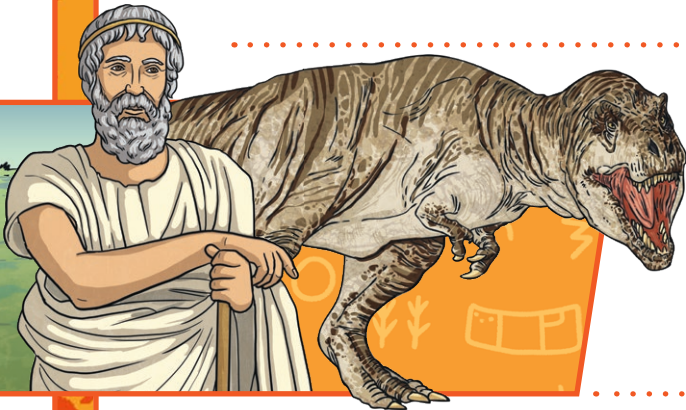
Back to the Stone Age

I've had an odd day in my time machine.

You'll never believe where I've just been.

I selected a date: 4000 BC.

Excited, I wondered where I would be.



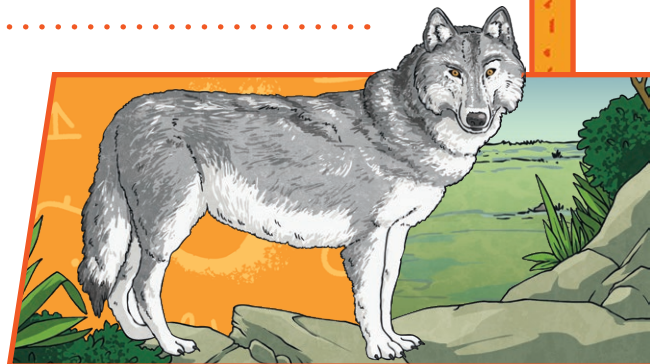
I knew that BC was a long time ago.

Would I see T. rex or an ancient Greek show?

Perhaps I'd be happy, perhaps I'd just panic.

What if I'm stood on the sinking Titanic?

No, as it turned out when I opened the door,
I'd gone to the Stone Age, set to explore!
Huge, sprawling plains and rocks everywhere;
scary, grey wolves with thick, matted fur.



At the foot of a hill, plumes of smoke filled the air
and, spotting small huts, I headed straight there.

I tensely approached then a figure appeared
with the furry body of something he'd speared.

I said, "Hello," but he just grunted back.
Should I run away now in case of attack?
Thankfully for me, he smiled with a wave
and beckoned me over to a dark, gloomy cave!





I peeked inside and was shocked to see
a huge, brown bear was staring at me.
With a stretch and a yawn and a roar so deep,
I relaxed as it then snuggled up for a sleep.

With the light from the flash on my phone on the wall,
I caught sight of paintings; I was so enthralled!
Filled with the pictures of places they'd been,
with maps and creatures to show what they'd seen.



With no bricks or windows, no sturdy front door,
their homes were constructed from timber and straw!
They mixed dung with mud to make the walls strong:
this wattle and daub caused a terrible pong!

No oven, no fridge, no microwave meals.
No plasters on hand to help as a cut heals.
Axe heads of flint, wooden arrows and bows.
Animal skins warm their bodies and toes.



Out in the woods, an extraordinary sight
of two males crouching to strike before night.
A man and boy hunting; the twigs snapping 'crunch'.
They see a deer roaming: it's perfect for lunch.

The boy grabbed his arrow by its stony head.
He fired at the prey but it saw him and fled.
A blanket of fields full of barley and wheat;
I'm stunned to see farming. That is no mean feat!



Nearby, the river flows: peaceful and calm.
Then, a fish darts along but the hunter is armed.
With a thrust of his weapon, he claims his food.
That is dinner sorted for him and his brood.



Sadly, time was up and I had to return
but, when I got back, I was desperate to learn.
I did my own research to find out more
about what I had seen when I opened that door.



Neolithic was the 'new' Stone Age.
Then, that was replaced by the next stage.
Bronze was created, mixing copper and tin;
As the Stone Age has ended, the Bronze Age will begin.



Questions

1. What date did the poet select on the time machine? Tick one.

- ☐ 2000 BC
- ☐ 4000 BC
- ☐ AD 4000
- ☐ 2500 BC

2. Number the events from 1-4 to show the order that they happened in. The first one has been done for you.

- ☐ The poet visited the dark, gloomy cave.
- ☒ 1 The poet selected the date 4000 BC on their time machine.
- ☐ The poet got home and did some research.
- ☐ The poet sees a man and a boy hunting.

3. Which period of time had the poet gone back to? Tick one.

- ☐ ancient Greece
- ☐ the Second World War
- ☐ the Iron Age
- ☐ the Stone Age

4. Draw **three** lines and complete each sentence.

The dark, gloomy cave... ●

● warm their bodies
and toes.

Neolithic... ●

● had a brown bear inside.

Animal skins... ●

● was the 'new' Stone Age.

5. What **scary, grey** animals had **thick, matted fur**?

6. Fill in the missing words.

The boy grabbed his _____ by its stony head.

He fired at the prey but it saw him and _____.

7. What do you think might happen if the poet goes back to the Stone Age again?

Answers

1. What date did the poet select on the time machine? Tick one.

- ☐ 2000 BC
☒ **4000 BC**
☐ AD 4000
☐ 2500 BC

2. Number the events from 1-4 to show the order that they happened in. The first one has been done for you.

- 2** The poet visited the dark, gloomy cave.
1 The poet selected the date 4000 BC on their time machine.
4 The poet got home and did some research.
3 The poet sees a man and a boy hunting.

3. Which period of time had the poet gone back to? Tick one.

- ☐ ancient Greece
☐ the Second World War
☐ the Iron Age
☒ **the Stone Age**

4. Draw **three** lines and complete each sentence.

The dark, gloomy cave...	warm their bodies and toes.
Neolithic...	had a brown bear inside.
Animal skins...	was the 'new' Stone Age.

5. What **scary, grey** animals had **thick, matted fur**?

It was scary, grey wolves that had thick, matted fur.

6. Fill in the missing words.

The boy grabbed his **arrow** by its stony head.

He fired at the prey but it saw him and **fled**.

7. What do you think might happen if the poet goes back to the Stone Age again?

Pupils' own responses, such as: I think that the poet might join in with some of the activities, such as farming or fishing, if they go back to the Stone Age again.

Questions

1. What scary, grey animals with thick, matted fur did the poet see? Tick one.

- ☐ bears
- ☐ wolves
- ☐ lions
- ☐ snakes

2. Number the events from 1-4 to show the order that they happened in.

- ☐ A fish was caught in the river.
- ☐ The poet peeked inside a cave.
- ☐ The poet saw a man and boy hunting.
- ☐ The poet selected the date 4000 BC.

3. **... a huge, brown bear was staring at me.**

How was the poet feeling when they saw the bear? Tick one.

- ☐ bored
- ☐ excited
- ☐ shocked
- ☐ happy

4. Draw **four** lines and complete each phrase.

With a stretch...

No plasters on hand...

Neolithic was...

Out in the woods,...

an extraordinary sight...

the 'new' Stone Age.

and a yawn and a roar
so deep...

to help as a cut heals.

5. How did the hunter claim his food in the river?

6. Look at the verse beginning **The boy grabbed his arrow...**
Find and copy one word that means the same as **surprised**.

7. **I relaxed as it then snuggled up for a sleep.**
Explain why the poet felt relaxed at this point.

8. Summarise how the poet felt about their visit to the Stone Age using 25 words or fewer.

Answers

1. What scary, grey animals with thick, matted fur did the poet see? Tick one.

- ☐ bears
☒ **wolves**
☐ lions
☐ snakes

2. Number the events from 1-4 to show the order that they happened in.

- 4** A fish was caught in the river.
2 The poet peeked inside a cave.
3 The poet saw a man and boy hunting.
1 The poet selected the date 4000 BC.

3. ... **a huge, brown bear was staring at me.**

How was the poet feeling when they saw the bear? Tick one.

- ☐ bored
☐ excited
☒ shocked
☐ happy

4. Draw **four** lines and complete each phrase.

With a stretch...	an extraordinary sight...
No plasters on hand...	the 'new' Stone Age.
Neolithic was...	and a yawn and a roar so deep...
Out in the woods,...	to help as a cut heals.

5. How did the hunter claim his food in the river?

The hunter claimed his food with a thrust of his weapon.

6. Look at the verse beginning **The boy grabbed his arrow...**
Find and copy one word that means the same as **surprised**.

stunned

7. **I relaxed as it then snuggled up for a sleep.**

Explain why the poet felt relaxed at this point.

Pupils' own responses, such as: The poet felt relaxed at this point because the bear had fallen asleep. They were worried that the bear might have attacked them if it hadn't have been so tired.

8. Summarise how the poet felt about their visit to the Stone Age using 25 words or fewer.

Pupils' own responses, such as: The poet was really impressed with the way of life and was disappointed to leave. They wanted to learn more.

Questions

1. **I'm stunned to see farming. That is no mean feat!**

Tick the option that explains how the poet felt. Tick one.

- ☐ The poet was bored and wanted to see something else.
- ☐ The poet was impressed that they were farming all those years ago.
- ☐ The poet expected there to be farming in the Stone Age.
- ☐ The poet found it funny that they were farming all those years ago.

2. Number the events from 1-4 to show the order that they happened in.

- ☐ In the woods, a deer is spotted by hunters.
- ☐ A fish is caught by a hunter.
- ☐ The poet sees paintings on the cave walls.
- ☐ The poet did some research to find out more.

3. **Out in the woods, an extraordinary sight...**

What does the word **extraordinary** mean in this phrase?

4. Fill in the missing words.

With no bricks or _____, no sturdy front door,
their homes were constructed from _____ and straw!

5. What sound was made in the woods?

6. Comment on the differences between today's houses and those in the Stone Age.

7. Do you think that you would have liked to have lived in the Stone Age?

☐ yes ☐ no ☐ maybe

Explain your choice.

8. Summarise how the poet felt about their visit to the Stone Age using 25 words or fewer.

Answers

1. **I'm stunned to see farming. That is no mean feat!**

Tick the option that explains how the poet felt. Tick one.

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- 2** In the woods, a deer is spotted by hunters.
- 3** A fish is caught by a hunter.
- 1** The poet sees paintings on the cave walls.
- 4** The poet did some research to find out more.

3. **Out in the woods, an extraordinary sight...**

What does the word **extraordinary** mean in this phrase?

Pupils' own answers, such as: Extraordinary means something is amazing or surprising.

4. Fill in the missing words.

With no bricks or **windows**, no sturdy front door,
their homes were constructed from **timber** and straw!

5. What sound was made in the woods?

The sound made in the woods was the twigs snapping 'crunch'.

6. Comment on the differences between today's houses and those in the Stone Age.

Pupils' own answers, such as: Today, houses where I live are made of brick and have tiles on the roof. They also have windows and front doors. Stone Age houses were made of wood and the walls were covered with a mixture of dung and mud. They didn't have radiators or ovens like my house does.

7. Do you think that you would have liked to have lived in the Stone Age?

Accept 'yes', 'no' or 'maybe' provided that a full explanation is also given, such as: Yes, I think that living in the Stone Age would have been fun. Hunting for food, fishing and playing outside all of the time sounds great.

8. Summarise how the poet felt about their visit to the Stone Age using 25 words or fewer.

Pupils' own responses, such as: The poet was really impressed with the way of life and was disappointed to leave. They wanted to learn more.