

# Stone Age to Iron Age Artefact Collection (HI10016)

This collection contains a variety of Stone Age to Iron Age replica artefacts, to support and enhance your learning about the changes that happened during this time.



## Contents: -

1. 1 x Stone Age Arrowhead
2. 1 x Stonehenge Model
3. 1 x Bronze Age Sky Disc
4. 1 x Uffington White Horse Model
5. 1 x Iron Age Scissors
6. 1 x Iron Age Mirror
7. 1 x Wooden Pot
8. 1x Iron Age Brooch

*(Contents may vary)*

## Questions you could ask children about the artefacts

### **Initial Discussion**

- What is this object?
- Does it resemble anything the children have seen?
- What do you think the item was used for and by whom?
- Does anyone know what it is called?

Collect any other questions the children might have about the artefacts and display them as you try to find the answers through your learning sessions.

### **Other questions to consider:**

- Where does the object come from?
- Who might have made this object? And how were they made?
- Why were they made?
- **What do the objects tell us about life in these times?** *This last question can be returned to at the end of the investigation.*

# All About the Artefacts

## 1. Stone Age Arrowhead

Flint arrow heads were made during the Neolithic Age using a technique called flint napping. A lump of flint rock is shaped by striking the flint with a rounded rock in a very specific series of blows, to break off flakes of flint and create the desired shape.

There were many shapes and sizes of arrowhead being used during this time, including those that had a wide top and looked a bit like a fan. There were also those that had sharp barbs running along the wooden shaft of the arrow. We don't know if these different shapes were used for hunting different types of animals or if they were just made by different people.

To help the arrows fly straight, feathers were attached to the back of the wooden arrow shaft. It is likely that they would have used feathers from a goose or other large bird. These feathers would have been attached using pitch to glue them in place and fine cord or thread to hold them. Arrow heads are a common find at Neolithic sites as they would often have been lost during hunts because they would break off the shaft if the arrow missed its mark.



Stone Age Flint Arrowheads 30pk TTS HI00548

*Pretend to be hunter-gatherers, make shelters and dens outside and make a chart of the food and things you might use. Make your own tools using found objects such as stones and sticks.*

## 2. Stonehenge

Found on England's Salisbury Plain in Wiltshire, Stonehenge is a huge man-made circle of standing stones. A famous Neolithic monument. Made up of an outer circle of 30 standing stones called 'Sarsens' which surrounded 5 huge stone arches in a horseshoe shape. Also 2 circles made of smaller 'bluestones,' one inside the outer circle and one inside the horseshoe, with 4 'station stones' positioned outside the central monument. The entire site was surrounded by a circular ditch and bank which also remains today. Consider questions that have baffled people for centuries about how and why Stonehenge was built.

*Make Stonehenge silhouette pictures with a yellow/orange sunset and black sugar paper or recreate Stonehenge using biscuits and use torches to represent the sun rising and setting through the different stones.*

## 3. Bronze Age Sky Disc

This artefact gives insight into Bronze Age beliefs and their knowledge and interest in astronomy and celestial movements. It is the Nebra sky and depicts the sun (or full moon), crescent moon (or eclipse) and stars. There is a cluster of seven stars that represent Pleiades. The disc may have been used to track the seasons.

## 4. Uffington White Horse

A pre-historic hill figure. Dating back to the Bronze Age, making it over 3,000 years old. It is situated near an ancient hillfort, Uffington castle, and Dragon Hill connected to the story of St. George and the dragon. It stands as a remarkable testament to ancient cultures and invites us to explore its mysteries and appreciate the wonders of the past. Locals and volunteers preserve the figure by re-chalking it. It's abstract shape with 'beaked' head resembles images of some horses found on ancient coins.

*Look at different hill figures and create own designs of them. If possible, visit a museum or historical site such as Uffington White Horse and learn more about this time.*

## 5. Iron Age Scissors

The Iron Age marked a significant leap in technology with more widely used materials and tools. Scissors could have been used by craftsmen and were well-suited for tasks such as needlework and cutting cloth. Larger scissors/shears were used by farmers. The iron tools made farming easier. Compare iron age tools to earlier tools from the Bronze and Stone Age.

## 6. Iron Age Mirror

Mirrors have often been found in graves. They might have had a practical and symbolic purpose. For example, used to reflect light into dark places, used to reflect sunlight as a signal, and used for grooming. Bone combs have also been found. Look at the decorations on the back of the mirrors.

## 7. Wooden Pot

Likely to be used for food storage or transporting water. These pots often had animal skin lids to help preserve the food.

*Create own pots from cardboard or clay. You could also use natural materials such as tree bark.*

## 8. Iron Age Brooch

Following the Bronze Age iron was used to make various tools, weapons and jewellery. The use of iron became more widespread after people learned how to make steel, a much harder metal, by heating iron with carbon. Here is an example of an early iron Age brooch formed from two pieces of shaped steel used to fasten cloaks or other items of clothing.

Read pre-historic inspired literature to help set the scene. Books you might like include, 'The Stone Age Boy' by Satoshi Kitamura, 'The Boy with the Bronze Axe' by Kathleen Fidler and 'Stig of the Dump' by Clive King.

### Reference Websites:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z82hsbk>

<https://www.britishmuseum.org/learn/schools/ages-7-11/ancient-britain>