

## Information for Teachers

# Exploring Prehistoric Life (KS2)



Flag Fen is recognised as the finest Bronze Age archaeological site in northern Europe. Excite the imagination and bring the past to life with this 'Exploring Prehistoric Life' day that covers the changes in Britain from the Stone Age to the Iron Age.

Want more of a focus of a particular prehistoric time period?  
You can now opt to choose activities that have a Stone Age, Bronze Age or Iron Age focus.  
Talk to us about how we can create the best day for you.

### Prehistoric Handling – real and replica prehistoric artefacts

Pupils will examine the various source of evidence for life in Stone Age, Bronze Age and Iron Age Britain. During the enquiry-based activity they will discover what these objects tell us about the past: specifically prehistoric people and its landscapes. Experiencing this activity is a great way of getting up close to genuine archaeological artefacts and to learn more about what everyday life was like in the past. If you have a particular prehistoric period that you wish to focus on, then we can steer this session to support this – just let us know.



### Prehistoric Craft – be experimental archaeologists

Pupils will make their own pot inspired by prehistoric originals. They will use the types of tools and materials available in prehistory to decorate their pots. Alternatively, they can make a clay roundhouse model or clay beads for Iron Age jewellery.



You can opt to extend the handling activity to include a **dig experience** in our mock dig excavation pits instead of the clay craft activity.

### Prehistoric Society – come with us on an exploration of the Flag Fen site

Explore the site as our ancestors once did. Step back in time with our costumed, knowledgeable guide. Discover how our ancestors used natural materials for food, medicine and to make things. What evidence is there of how people managed the changing landscape? Look carefully at a reconstructed Bronze Age roundhouse. Step inside - what does it tell us about past lives? Recent discoveries at the Must Farm archaeological site are interwoven into this session. You will have the opportunity to see the Must Farm boats: 8 Bronze and Iron Age log boats being conserved – as featured in the British Museum's 'Teaching History with 100 Objects' <http://teachinghistory100.org/>.

Want a Stone Age focus? We can offer a hunter and gatherer activity as part of their exploration of the site where pupils discover how hunted animals were used in everyday life, from food to fashion.

Want an Iron Age focus? Meet Boudica, find out about Iron Age life and find out why is disgruntled in 60AD.



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### Prehistoric Culture – experiencing traditional storytelling

Get cosy in our Bronze Age roundhouse and enjoy a traditional prehistoric story. You have an option of choosing whether or not you would like to have a fire lit in the roundhouse for this activity.

**National curriculum links:** English, History, Art, Science.

### Learning objectives:

**Participating in this ‘Exploring Prehistoric Life’ day, pupils will:**

- Develop a chronological understanding of the changes in Britain from the Stone Age to the Iron Age.
- Gain historical understanding in relation to how we find out about the past through experimental archaeology and the use of primary sources.
- Understand historical concepts such as significance; continuity and change; cause and consequence and similarity and difference.
- Show an understanding that science is, and always has been used in the real world.
- Deduct and make statements and inferences from evidence.

*“An excellent experience for the children, covering many NC aims. Very well organised and excellently supervised by enthusiastic staff.” (Teacher at Cranwell Primary School)*

*“The children have drawn on their experience at Flag Fen in all areas of the curriculum. We will most definitely be returning in future years for this invaluable experience”  
 (Teacher at Monkshouse Primary)*

### Other information:

<b>Duration:</b>	Full day: 10 am–2:15 pm.
<b>Cost:</b>	£230 per group of up to 30 pupils. Cost includes admission charge, all activities, supporting adults and a pre-visit. Minimum charge for school groups of 20 or less students: £200
<b>Maximum group size:</b>	Maximum number per group is 30 and the site can accommodate up to three groups at any one time.
<b>Ratio:</b>	Minimum 1 adult to 10 students.
<b>What to bring:</b>	Suitable outdoor clothing for predicted weather. Boxes to transport craft back to school. There are no tea or coffee facilities at Flag Fen for teachers. You may therefore wish to bring a flask or cold drink (to drink at the appropriate time of course!)
<b>Information for coach driver/s</b>	During the public closed season (October-March inclusive) the Visitors Centre is not open for drinks. We advise to bring own refreshments. Building team officers are on site to allow entry to toilet facilities. During the open season (April-September) coach drivers have access to the café in the VC and the toilets.
<b>Booking information:</b>	To book, please contact us by phone or email. When the activities and date are agreed, a booking form and risk assessment is emailed to you. To confirm the visit we ask that you complete the booking form and email it back to us. Once confirmed, a Teachers’ Resource Pack is emailed to you. An invoice is sent after the visit.
<b>A note about behaviour:</b>	Members of the school staff have overall responsibility for the behaviour of their pupils and we expect you to support Flag Fen staff with this where necessary. Clear expectations of behaviour are stated as part of the H&S. As you know, pupils benefit significantly when school adults also get involved in the workshops so please join in where appropriate.
<b>Teacher’s Resource Pack</b>	This pack includes supporting complimentary material for classroom work. This includes maps of the site and as it was in prehistoric times, plus information about the significance of the site. We will be adding further supportive material throughout the year.