

Year 3/4 The Land of Roar



Within this topic we use the book series about dragons “The Land of Roar” by Jenny McLachlan to inspire us. We learn about living things and their habitats, albeit linking real life behaviours and adaptations to the imaginary world of dragons. We will develop our understanding of life in pre-historic Britain and learn about life during the Iron Age and how the development and use of iron tools has helped shape modern life.

Amazing Facts:

- The Celtic language and culture are still around today, particularly in parts of Ireland, Wales and Scotland. This is the Celts' legacy.
- The Iron Age Celts believed in many Gods. Druids (priests) believed in immortality (life after death) so Celts were often buried with ornaments, weapons and food to take with them to the afterlife.

Farming

Iron Age farmers used ploughs called ards. Ards were much more efficient than bronze or wooden ploughs and could be used on much harder, heavier soils.

Iron Age farmers grew crops and vegetables and kept animals such as geese, goats and pigs.



The Iron Age

In this period, iron, a much stronger metal than bronze was used to make weapons and farming tools. The Celtic people travelled over to Britain from mainland Europe around 500BC and lived in tribes around the country.

These communities shared a similar set of beliefs, language and culture. Fighting between tribes was common and so there was a need to build safer, fortified settlements, known as hill forts, which were the size of small towns. They lived in roundhouses, which were made of mud and wood with thatched roofs.

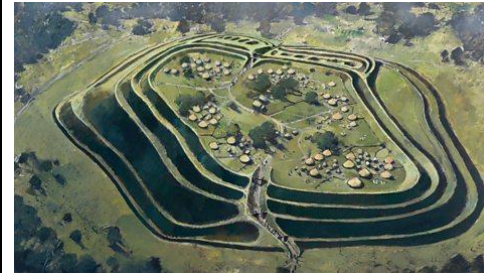
During the Iron Age, societies began to produce and preserve food they needed to survive. They were able to keep livestock and store grain and to trade the surplus. As a consequence, landowners became wealthy and powerful while the poor had to work hard in the fields.

In 43AD Britain was invaded by the Romans — the following Romanisation is generally considered to signal the end of the British Iron Age.



Living in The Iron Age

During the Iron Age, technology advanced across many aspects of life. Hill forts developed during the Iron Age. Communities lived on hills to stay safe when other tribes attacked.



Inside a hill fort people would live in round houses. These were simple one-roomed houses with a pointed roof, a thatched roof and walls made from wattle and daub (a mix of mud and twigs).



In a hill fort, some people worked as potters, carpenters and metalworkers.

Glossary

civilisations – organised groups of people with their own culture.

consequence – result or effect.

conquest – taking control of a country or a group of people.

culture – a set of beliefs or behaviours shown by a group of people.

efficient – with minimum wasted energy.

fortified – protect against attack.

influential – making a difference; people taking notice.

legacy – something left behind after death.

livestock – farm animals

ore – a rock that metal comes from.

surplus – more than you need.

BC and AD

B.C. - Before Christ.

A.D. - Anno Domini in Latin which stands for 'in the year of our lord'

There was no year 0!