

Bees

There are many different types of bees - over 20,000 species, in fact!

There are three main types of bee: the honeybee, the bumblebee and the solitary bee.

Honeybees and bumblebees live together with many other bees in colonies, but solitary bees live alone.

There is only one bee in each colony who lays eggs. She is the queen bee.

Did You Know?

In the summer, a queen bee can lay as many as 2500 eggs in a day!

The female worker bees spend their time gathering nectar to make honey. They travel a long way to collect the nectar and then find their way back to the colony. They have a fantastic sense of direction! Only female bees are able to sting. Male bees cannot sting.

Have you heard that if a bee stings someone, it will die? This is actually only true for worker honeybees. Many species of bees could sting someone and carry on with their day.

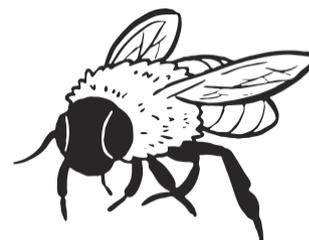
Bees are very important for humans because they help to make the food we eat. As well as the honey made by honeybees, bees are also important for moving pollen between plants, as it gets caught on their bodies and rubbed off onto the next flower they visit. This is called pollination. It helps to fertilise plants so that new plants can grow to provide food for us. Bees also collect pollen to take back to their hive. They use the pollen to feed baby bees

Did You Know?

Honey has been used by human beings for thousands of years, not only as a food but as a medicine and a beauty product too.

'You're as busy as a bee!' Have you ever heard this phrase before? People compare busy people to bees because bees are very busy insects. They work very hard collecting nectar to make honey and can fly as quickly as 15 miles per hour.

Do you know what causes the buzzing sound that you can hear when a bee is near? It comes from the bee's wings beating together very quickly. A bee beats its wings 200 times a second!



Food and Eating Words

Part A

Chapter 4 is called 'A Scrumptious, Crunchy Feast'.

The word bank contains some different words or phrases that can be used instead of 'ate'.

Can you choose a word that fits well into each of the following sentences? A dictionary may be helpful.

| | | | | | |
|---------------------|-----------|-------------|--------|-------------|----------|
| feasted | nibbled | gobbled up | chewed | bolted down | consumed |
| devoured | picked at | wolfed down | grazed | swallowed | dined |

E.g.
I **devoured** my delicious sandwich as soon as it was put down in front of me.

Try to use a different word each time, if you can. Cross out the words in the word bank as you use them.

1. She _____ the sticky sweet and it got stuck to her teeth.
2. I _____ on a selection of crackers and cheese chunks throughout the evening.
3. We _____ on mountains of pizza on the evening of my birthday.
4. She quickly _____ her evening meal and went straight out for a jog.
5. I _____ my brother's popcorn when he wasn't looking.
6. My uncle _____ the curry and naan bread with a big smile on his face.
7. The mouse _____ a gigantic piece of cheese.
8. The dog _____ a significant amount of treats that day.

Now write your own sentences with the words you have not used so far.

Part B

Chapter 4 is called 'A Scrumptious, Crunchy Feast'.

Go through Chapter 4, looking for any words which are linked to food, eating or drinking. Write the words that you find in the correct column on the grid below.

| Nouns (names of people, animals, places or things) | Verbs (action words) | Adjectives (words to describe nouns) |
|--|--------------------------------|--|
| a feast | ate | scrumptious |

In the Cave

Reread the part of Chapter 4 where Bee finds a cave (from the middle of p. 33 to the end of the chapter) and pick out details about what the cave is like. Draw the cave in the space below and label the details that you found in the text — e.g. you might label the high roof of the cave.



Challenge Task

Write a description of when the pair explore the cave, writing from Dog's point of view.

Prepositions

Part A

A **preposition** is a word or phrase used to describe a **place**, **time** or **movement**. In this activity, we will be looking at prepositions that describe a **place**.

E.g. Bee was **inside** the tent. Dog jumped **over** the branch.

1. Underline the preposition in each sentence.

a) There is a sore patch on the back of Bee's head.

b) Dog flips onto his back.

c) Bee rests her head on Dog's grey, furry tummy.

d) She is lying in dank, sloppy mud.

e) She feels cosier than a bee in a hive.

f) She slides into a dream.

g) She dreams that she is chasing after a beast.

h) Dog stands outside the little cave.

i) She scrambles from the cave.

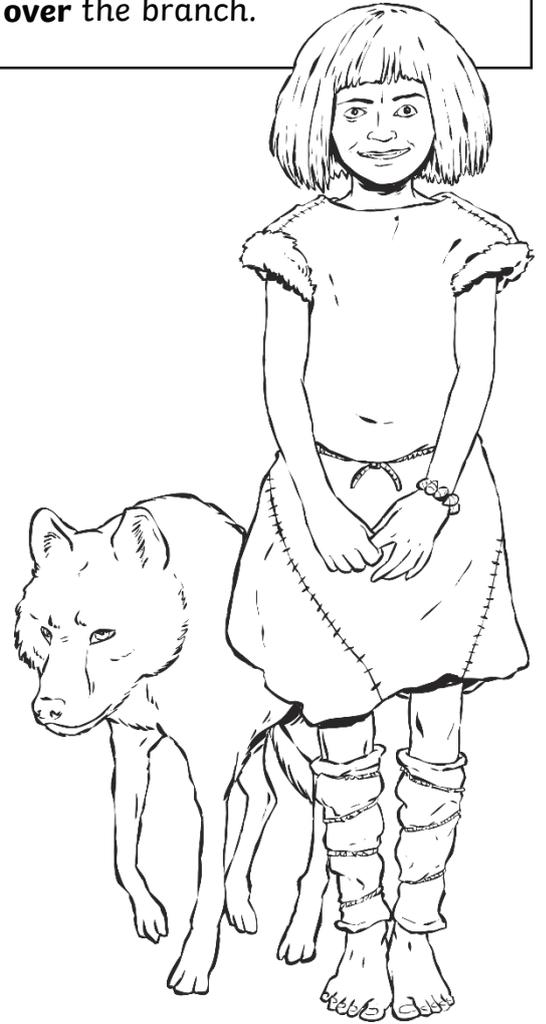
j) They tramp through the passage in the rock.

k) Beside his muddy paws, Bee spots bright yellow flowers with spiky green leaves.

l) Bee throws herself onto the soft ground beside him.

m) She follows him through the trees.

n) She crunches the ants between her teeth.



2. Choose an appropriate preposition from the word bank to go in each of the following sentences.

through

behind

under

below

over

towards

a) Dog hid _____ a log.

b) The ants hurried to hide _____ a rock.

c) The tribe stood _____ the red sun and gazed in amazement.

d) Dog ran _____ Bee excitedly.

e) Bee tucked the goatskin _____ her feet.

f) Bee ran quickly _____ the forest.

3. Now write your own sentence containing the preposition 'through'.

Challenge Task

Look back at Chapter 3 of 'How to Skin a Bear'. Write down the prepositions that you can find in this chapter.

Comprehension

Part A

Read the text and then answer the questions.

Hunter-Gatherers

Early humans' survival depended on finding food. We call them hunter-gatherers because they had to hunt animals and fish and gather wild food. Humans didn't grow and raise their own food until the Neolithic period – before then, they would hunt whatever animals they could find. During the Stone Age in Britain, this could have been animals such as horses, deer, mammoths, hares, rhino and hyena. They would also hunt seals, seabirds and fish from rivers and the sea.



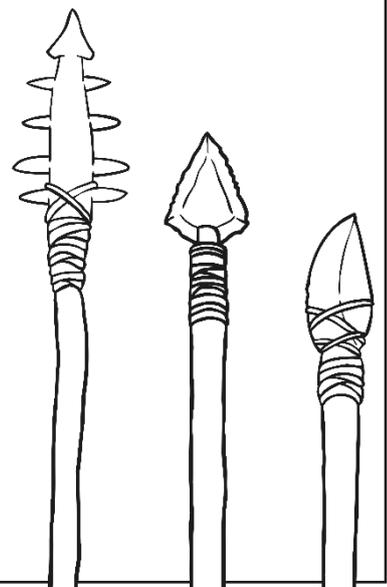
1. When did humans begin to grow and farm their own food?

2. Which animals did humans hunt on land?

Weapons

Hunters used different weapons to kill their food. These weapons could be made from bone, ivory, wood, antlers, stone or flint. The first early humans used rocks, stone axes and wooden spears that were hardened at the tips using fire. Later, humans developed spears that had sharp bone or flint tips. They also invented spear-throwers, which were tools to help them throw spears further and with more force. Spear-throwers made it possible to kill or wound an animal from a safer distance.

For hunting fish, hunters would carve barbs into antlers to make a harpoon that would stick into the flesh of the fish. These would be attached to the end of spears. They used bows and arrows to hunt smaller forest animals. By around 12,000 BC, hunters were using dogs to help in the chase.



3. Once humans started to add tips to their spears, what did they make the spear tips

from?

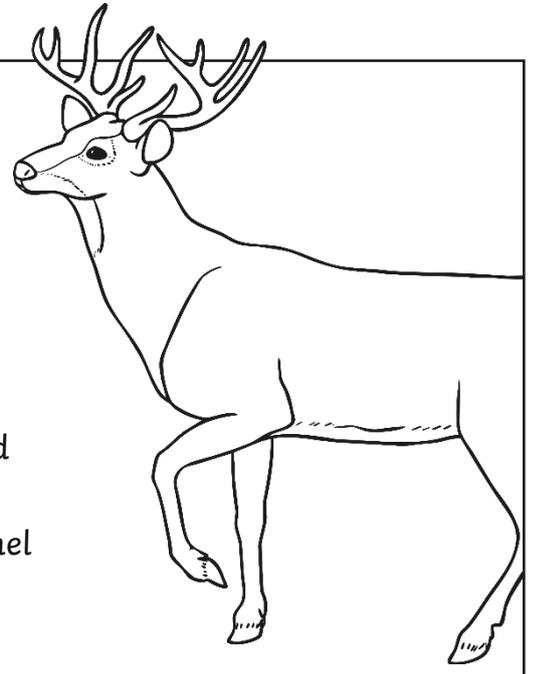
4. How did spear-throwers help early humans to hunt more effectively?

5. When did humans begin to grow and farm their own food?

6. Which animals did humans hunt on land?

Hunters had to be clever in order to catch animals that were larger and quicker than them. They would find out where the animals went to drink, or where they crossed rivers, so that they could attack when the animals were most vulnerable. They would choose the animals that looked weaker.

Animals could also be caught in snares or carefully set traps. Often, hunters would work together to chase 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 the edge of a cliff and then chased the animals between the walls and straight over the cliff.



7. Why did hunters attack animals while they were drinking?

8. How would hunters kill animals near a cliff?

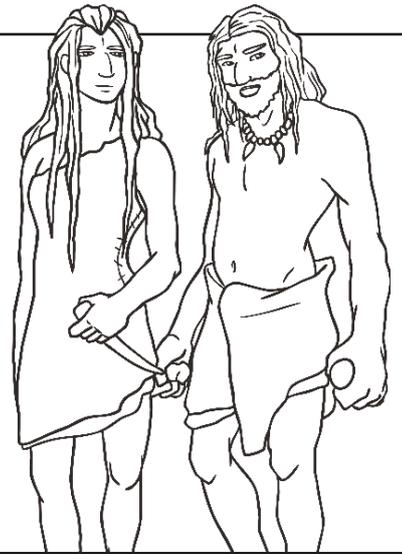
9. Which other foods do you think were eaten in Stone age times, apart from the ones mentioned in the text above?

Part B

Read the text and then answer the questions.

Section 1

In Stone Age times, when an animal had been killed in a hunt, every part of a kill was used. One big kill could feed a family for months. They cooked the meat to eat or dried it to save it for later. Early humans would eat absolutely everything from an animal, including the blood, feet and brain. They made bones into tools and weapons. They could also smash the bones so they could eat the marrow from the inside. Marrow is high in fat so it would have been a good energy source. They would also make animal hides into clothes, use the fat in lamps and make antlers into tools and weapons.



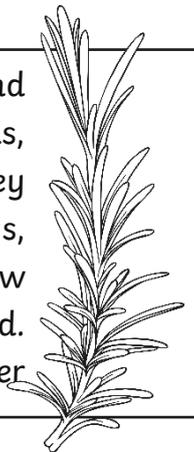
Section 2

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 several different appliances that we can use. However, they still managed to cook with some variety back ~~to~~ sometimes, they grilled or roasted meat on a spit. At other times, they wrapped meat in straw or leather and secured it with a twig or straw rope. They put this 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 pot would be put inside and covered with



Section 3

The Stone Age diet would have varied according to what was local and available. They had access to a wide variety of natural foods like seeds, berries, nuts and roots and they knew which plants were safe to eat. They used herbs to flavour food, just like we do today. They would gather eggs, insects, snails and caterpillars. Large quantities of wild nuts and berries grew in the woods. Nuts were particularly good because they could be easily stored. At the coast, humans could eat mussels, crabs, oysters, lobsters and other



1. Did a tribe eat all of the meat from a kill quickly before it went off?

2. List two different uses of bones from an animal that had been killed during the Stone Age.

a)

b)

3. What was an advantage of eating marrow?

4. How did Stone Age people heat water to cook their meat in?

5. What was one advantage of gathering nuts for food in the Stone Age?

6. Read the text again to find words with similar meanings to the following words or

| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| equipment | |
| diversity | |
| attached | |
| in the neighbouring area | |
| obtainable | |
| amounts | |

7. This text could be improved by the use of subheadings. Which subheadings would you choose for the different sections within the text?

| | |
|-----------|--|
| Section 1 | |
| Section 2 | |
| Section 3 | |

Challenge Task

Design a meal that someone might have eaten during Stone Age times. Explain how they would have got the food and how they would have cooked it. You may choose between writing or drawing and labelling for this challenge.

True or False?

| | |
|---|--|
| <p>True or False?</p> <p>There is only one species of bee in the world.</p> | <p>True or False?</p> <p>In a colony of honeybees, only the queen bee lays eggs.</p> |
| <p>True or False?</p> <p>The queen bee only lays one egg a day.</p> | <p>True or False?</p> <p>All bees live in colonies.</p> |
| <p>True or False?</p> <p>All bees sting.</p> | <p>True or False?</p> <p>Bees have a fantastic sense of direction.</p> |
| <p>True or False?</p> <p>Bees can fly at a speed of up to 15 miles per hour.</p> | <p>True or False?</p> <p>Some people use honey to make them feel better when they are unwell.</p> |
| <p>True or False?</p> <p>All bees die once they have stung someone.</p> | <p>True or False?</p> <p>Bees play an important role in pollinating plants.</p> |
| <p>True or False?</p> <p>Bees collect nectar to make honey.</p> | <p>True or False?</p> <p>Solitary bees live alone.</p> |

| | |
|---|---|
| <p>True or False?</p> <p>Bees do not collect pollen to take back to the hive.</p> | <p>True or False?</p> <p>A popular phrase is, 'as lazy as a bee'.</p> |
| <p>True or False?</p> <p>The buzzing sound you hear from a bee comes from the bee singing.</p> | <p>True or False?</p> <p>Bees beat their wings 200 times a second.</p> |

Challenge Task

Write down some questions you would like to know the answer to about bees.
