

Year 3 / Year 4 - Stone Age Homes

Objectives

History

- To learn about what Palaeolithic and Mesolithic houses looked like.
- To understand how our knowledge of the prehistoric past is constructed from a range of sources.
- To develop a chronological understanding of British history.
- To ask historical questions about similarities and differences.

Design and Technology

- To build a model of a Mesolithic house.
- To create a design of a model design.
- To select and use a range of materials to construct.

Whole Class

- Start by reading 'Esme's Rock'. Read the book again, this time focusing on page one of the story.
- Look at the double page spread showing Esme's home.
- **Ask:** What does Esme have in our house? Do you have the same things in your house? What's the same and what's different about the things in your class?
- Children to respond orally and teacher to collect children's responses.
- Answers could focus on objects in house beds, fire, shelves, tools etc or the building walls, doors, materials used etc.
- Tell children that they will be designing and making a new house for Esme.

Independent or Group Work

- Give each children a copy of **Worksheet One**.
- Explain that they need to design a house for Esme using just natural materials.
- Ask: What materials would have been available in the Stone Age period? Would they be good for construction. Why do you think they used stone?
- Share pictures of the houses from *Esme's Rock*.
- Get children to draw their home on **Worksheet One** and label the materials that they will be using.
- Give children time to share examples of their houses.
- Children to create their homes using natural resources. If you have a safe outdoor space, you might want to take the children outside where they have access to a range of natural materials.
- As the children are building, support them in selecting and manipulating their materials.

Plenary

- Children to go round and look at their peer's houses.
- Ask: Can you say two things you like and one thing that you would change about your peer's house?
- Children to complete evaluation of their house on **Worksheet One.**

Resources:

- *Esme's Rock* Picture Book
- Worksheet One
- A range of natural building materials (pebbles, mud, sticks)

Key Vocabulary:

- Prehistoric
- Neolithic
- Mammoth
- Cave

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Worksheet One

Draw your stone age house for Esme and label the parts.

Don't forget to include walls, a roof, somewhere to sleep, somewhere to cook.

What materials will you use?

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Worksheet One (continued)

Evaluation

What did you like about your Stone Age house?

What would you change about your Stone Age house?



