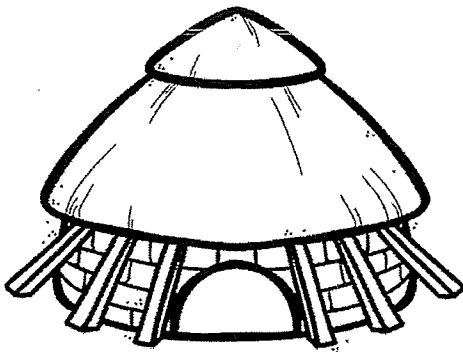


# MESOLITHIC PERIOD

The Stone Age is divided into three periods: the Old Stone or the **Paleolithic** Age, the Middle Stone or the **Mesolithic** Age, and the New Stone or **Neolithic** Age. The exact dates for each period varies across the world. The Middle Stone Age lasted from the end of the Ice Age until the start of farming. The start and end dates of the Mesolithic period vary by region, it is dated from around 10,000 BCE to 8,000 BCE.



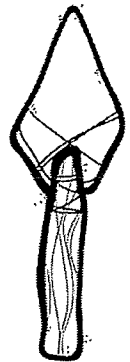
## LIFESTYLE

During the Paleolithic age, people only hunted and gathered. Most Mesolithic people were **nomadic**, meaning they rarely settled in places and usually lived in temporary campsites near water sources. Their homes were made from poles covered by animal skin or thatch. Most Mesolithic people were **hunter-gatherers** who got their food by hunting animals

such as deer, wild cattle, pigs, and horses. Fishing for salmon, eel, and trout was important too, leading to the development of dug-out canoes called **logboats**, and paddles. People during the Mesolithic period also gathered wild nuts and berries. Later in the Mesolithic period, the development of agriculture led to the rise of permanent settlements.

## TOOLS

Mesolithic tools were usually made from small chipped stone tools called **microliths**. They provided sharp tips for making lightweight **spears** and **arrows**. Fish hooks were made from bone. Tools for digging were made from deer antlers.



## ART

Art from the Mesolithic period reflects the change to a warmer climate and staying in places longer. Food was not available everywhere though, so Mesolithic populations were often forced to become migrating hunters and settle in **rock** shelters. Some Mesolithic art includes **cave paintings** and engravings, small sculptures, and early architecture.

## NEOLITHIC

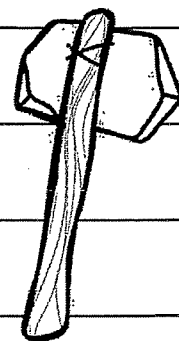
The **Neolithic** or New Stone Age began as people transitioned from nomadic hunter-gatherers to permanent residents of villages. They began farming and domesticated animals.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

# MESOLITHIC PERIOD

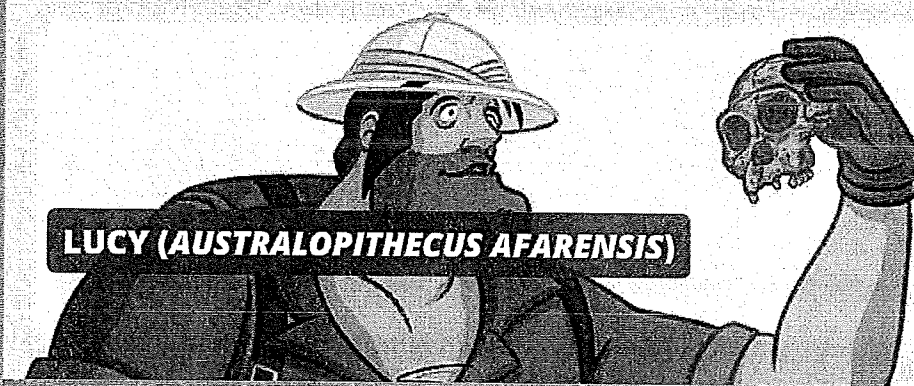
**MATCHING:** Match each term with its description.

1. ____ bones	A. Provided sharp tips for making spears
2. ____ Paleolithic	B. Moving around to find food
3. ____ nomadic	C. Fish hooks were made by these
4. ____ logboats	D. Time before the Mesolithic Period
5. ____ Neolithic	E. Mesolithic people put paintings in these
6. ____ caves	F. Canoes used to fish by people
7. ____ Mesolithic	G. Period that followed the Mesolithic Period
8. ____ microliths	H. Also known as the Middle Stone Age



**MULTIPLE CHOICE:** Choose the best answer.

9. What was the author's **main** purpose in writing this passage?
- A. To persuade the reader to learn more about the Mesolithic period.
  - B. To entertain the reader with an interesting story about people who lived during the Mesolithic period.
  - C. To inform the reader about the characteristics of the Mesolithic period.
  - D. To explain how people in Mesolithic period found their food.
10. Which statement is **true** about the Mesolithic period?
- A. The Mesolithic period was the first part of the Stone Age.
  - B. Most people who lived during the Mesolithic period lived in permanent homes.
  - C. The Paleolithic period followed the Mesolithic period.
  - D. Most people who lived in the Mesolithic period were hunter-gatherers.

**LUCY (AUSTRALOPITHECUS AFARENSIS)**

by Ruth Carter on June 23, 2017

The bones that make up Lucy's skeleton were found by Dr. Donald Johanson in 1974 in the country of Ethiopia. They were scattered over an area of about 1½ square miles (2.4 square kilometers). When the bones were brought into base camp, the Beatles' song "Lucy in the Sky with Diamonds" was playing, so they named the bones Lucy. The skeleton is about 40 percent complete. You can see from this picture how much of the skeleton is missing. Do you see any hand bones? Do you see any foot bones? When the bones are all laid out in order, Lucy's skeleton stands about 3½ feet (1.1 meters) tall.

Some scientists say that Lucy is an ape-man. They claim she could walk upright, and her body was hairy and had human hands and feet. Do we know this is true from the bones that were found? Of course not! But evolution believers are trying so hard to find the "missing link" that will fit into their worldview that they will use a lot of imagination to create a creature that looks half human and half ape.

Now listen to the rest of the story.



Casts of actual bones of Lucy at Creation Museum

## Lucy's Hands

Scientists have found other more complete skeletons of the same type of ape that Lucy was, which include hand bones. From them, we can make a pretty safe guess that Lucy's hands had long, curved fingers suited for climbing in trees. There are no complete hands of Lucy's type, but she did not have human hands.

## Lucy's Feet

From skeletons of Lucy's kind that have been found with some foot bones, we can make a better guess that Lucy's feet had toes that could grab things and allow her to be a good climber. She did not have human feet.

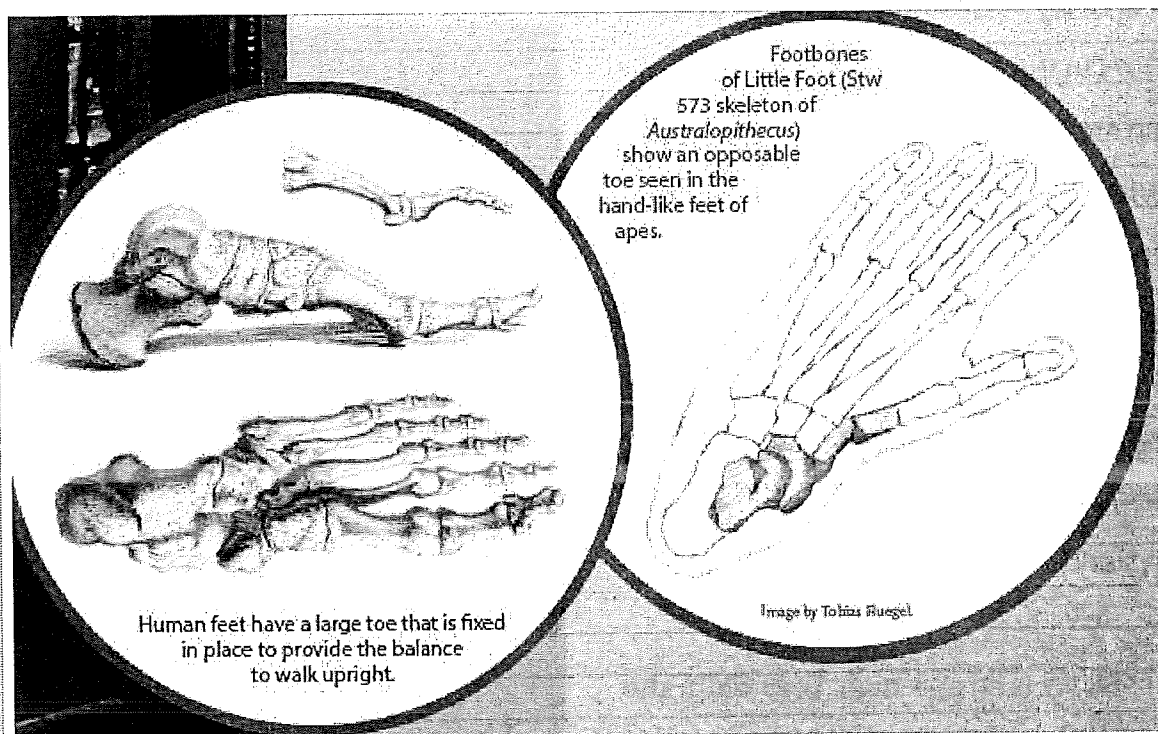
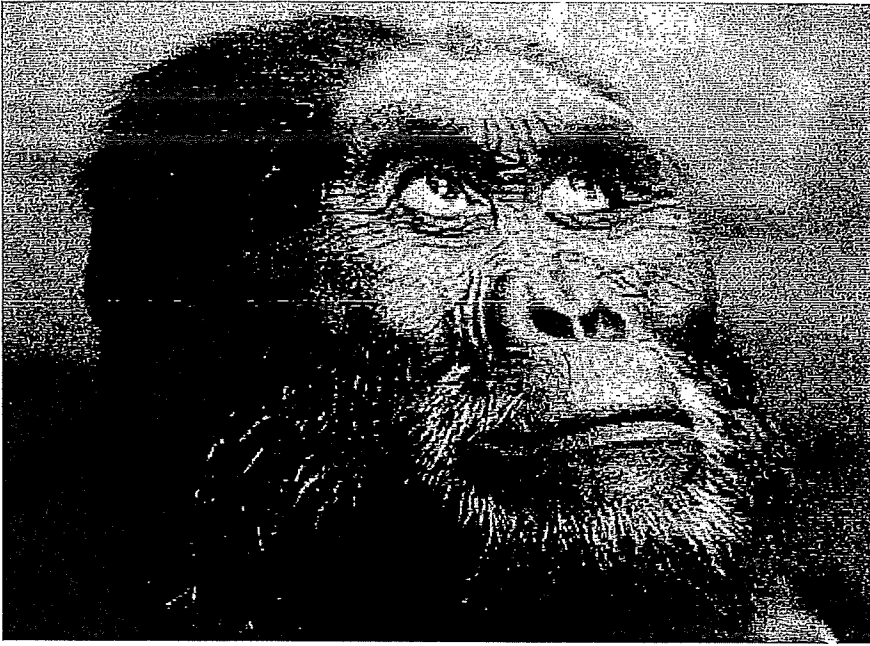


Image by Tobias Fluegel.

Human feet have a large toe that is fixed in place to provide the balance to walk upright (left). Footbones of Little Foot (Stw 573 skeleton of *Australopithecus*) show an opposable toe seen in the hand-like feet of apes (right).

## Lucy's Eyes

Often when evolution believers make a model of an ape-man, they will give the eyes white sclera (the white part of a person's eyes). However, the scleras of apes are dark brown or tan. Giving an ape-man model white eyes is a small touch that fools us into thinking this ape-like creature really was part human.



*Reconstruction by John Gurche; Photo by Tim Evanson*

## Lucy's Posture

Evolution believers suggest that Lucy walked on two feet instead of on all four. One of the main reasons they make this conclusion is based on a set of fossilized human footprints found 932 miles (1,500 kilometers) away from Lucy's bones in the country of Tanzania. They say these human tracks are about as old as Lucy's bones and are located in a rock layer formed at the time Lucy lived, so they conclude that these footprints must have come from Lucy's kind


## Cave Painting #2 (Kimberly Region, Western Australia)



[Click image for larger version](#)

FIRST Observe!	THEN Analyze!
What do you <i>see</i> ? (Color, lines, texture, objects, people, background, light, space...)	How do you interpret what you see?  What is the purpose of this art?  What does the artist want the viewer to learn, think, or feel?  How does this art represent the time in which it was made?
What does this art suggest about how early humans interacted with the environment?	

# Early Human Word Find



C	F	M	N	Y	W	E	A	J	Y	A	U	H	H	E
T	I	Z	I	Z	Q	V	F	R	Z	C	X	U	N	T
D	N	H	A	G	K	N	O	L	U	B	N	E	R	A
S	A	H	T	I	R	T	F	L	A	T	F	D	L	C
Z	M	M	T	I	S	A	T	P	E	D	Y	B	G	I
P	U	M	O	I	L	U	T	R	T	P	A	D	A	T
T	H	I	H	N	R	O	G	E	X	C	T	F	S	S
U	B	E	D	E	K	A	E	Y	Y	U	W	B	O	E
Q	R	N	D	U	T	P	I	L	F	E	Q	U	C	M
P	I	I	O	H	Q	J	B	K	A	L	K	W	I	O
K	O	G	E	B	S	N	A	K	D	P	D	X	E	D
P	E	R	J	H	O	M	I	N	I	D	H	K	T	D
S	E	Y	G	O	L	O	E	A	H	C	R	A	Y	T
R	Y	E	D	J	T	C	H	H	C	W	U	R	K	T
Y	S	Z	I	Q	V	E	C	K	N	O	A	W	X	K

ADAPT  
DOMESTICATE  
HUMAN  
MIGRATE  
PREHISTORY

ARCHAEOLOGY  
ERA  
HUNTER-GATHERER  
NOMAD  
SOCIETY

CULTURE  
HOMINID  
PALEOLITHIC

