

Stone Age raw materials



Stone: this is a stone handaxe. It was a multi-tool. It could be used as a hammer, a knife, a digger and a hole making drill.

Stone could be found anywhere and shaped to do different jobs. It would be used and discarded.



Bone: animal bone and horns could be made into tools, fish hooks, harpoons and arrowheads or carved into handles for flint axes and knives.

Antler was often used as a harpoon tip to catch fish.

These things were reused many times and were important objects.

Wood: this raw material literally grows on trees. It can be carved into containers the bark can be used to make cloth and baskets. It can be burned to keep you warm and safe from wild animals.



Wood is used in the making of shelters which would be used to live in when following herds of animals. If you live somewhere with few trees stone or bones can be used.



Plants can make string or baskets. They can be woven or plaited to become strong useful things to carry or tie. Rushes and reeds can be used as roofing shelters. These can be tied in bundles or fully thatched into place. They also make good baskets.



Skins: could be used for shelter, furs as blankets or clothes. We have no original stone age clothes, but we can look at the skin clothes of the Inuit which have not changed for centuries. Shoes and bags can also be made from skins. The **sinews** (the bits that pull your joints back and feel like strings behind knees and in hands) can be used to make bow strings as these are stretchy.

Stone Age Life

Make a shelter



Gather up to 8 sticks: the longer the better. They should be at least 20 cm long and about a pencil width thick. * If the sticks are flexible try making a bender. *If they are stiff try a lean-to shelter or a tipi shape.



Use string or leather to tie the shelter together to make a frame strong enough to take your skin covering. I would recommend using something thin and

waterproof as skins are both thin and waterproof. A thicker plastic (bag for life) or piece of tarpaulin or if you can get it some chamois leather (often used to clean cars or windows). If you can do this outside you can push the ends of the sticks into the ground to make them more stable and less wobbly.



Have a go. Remember to pick smooth sticks with no sharp bits and to be very careful not to get them near your eyes.