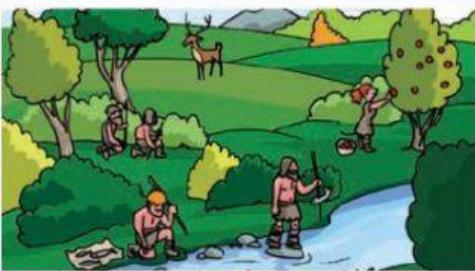


Prehistory is divided into **two** periods: the **Stone Age** and the **Bronze and Iron Ages**.

The **Stone Age** began when the first humans emerged and began to use tools, about **2.5 million** years ago. The first part of the Stone Age is called the **Paleolithic Period**. It started about 2.5 million years ago and ended about **10 000** years ago.



Paleolithic people were **nomadic**. This means they didn't live permanently in one place. They lived in small groups and went from one place to another looking for food.



Paleolithic people **hunted** and **fished** to get food. They also collected fruit and plants. During this period people discovered how to make **fire**. After that they could cook their food.



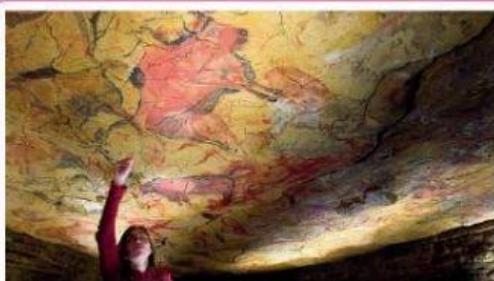
Paleolithic people lived in **caves** or **huts** made of tree branches and animal skins. They wore clothes made of animal skins, too.



Paleolithic people made **tools** from stone, wood and animal bones. For example, they made **spears** for hunting.

**Archaeologists** are people who look for objects and buildings from the past. They have found objects, such as tools and bones, and cave paintings from the Paleolithic period. Objects and paintings give us information about Paleolithic people and how they lived.

Archaeologists have found human bones that are up to one million years old in the **Sierra de Atapuerca** in Burgos. These bones are the earliest confirmed evidence of humans in Western Europe.



There are many cave paintings in the **Altamira Cave** in Cantabria. The paintings show different animals and people's hands.



These tools are made of bone and stone. The **harpoons** were used for fishing and the **spears** were used for hunting.

After reading this page, answer to these questions:

1. Where did they live? Was it permanent?
2. What did they eat?
3. What did they do with the animal skins?
4. What did they do in the caves?
5. What is an archaeologist?