

Life in the Past

1 Time to Read!

A long time ago, a group of people live in a cave. They are very different from us. They don't have cars or houses, and they don't go to school. But in some ways, they are the same as us. They have families and they look after their children. They also think about the world around them.

One day, a young woman walks near the river. She sees something interesting: it's an old axe. The axe is not like hers. It is smaller and made of stone. The woman looks at it carefully. Then she takes it home to her family. Her father looks at it. He thinks about how to make one like it. After a few days, he makes a new axe. It is just like the old one. He is very happy.

Other people see the new axe. They want one too. So the man makes more axes. He uses a special kind of rock called flint. Flint is very hard. People use flint for thousands of years because it is good for making tools like axes and knives. The man becomes famous. People come from far away to see him and his axes. The man teaches his friends how to make axes too.

The people in the cave learn a lot from each other. They learn how to make baskets from grass, and how to make bowls from wood. They also learn how to make fire. Fire is important. It gives light and heat, and they can cook food with it. Sometimes, they use fire to scare away dangerous animals too.

People find out about fire by mistake. One day, a man is walking in the mountains. He is cold and hungry. He has no food, so he eats leaves and grass. But these things are not very nice. Then he sees a dead animal. He is very hungry, so he eats it. He doesn't know that the animal is very old and has no meat. He only eats the bones and the fur. Then he sees something interesting: rocks that are black inside. The man takes them back to the cave. He shows his friends, and they make fire with them.

Many years later, scientists find the old cave. They see the ashes from the fire and the bones of the animals. They also find the old tools. These things are very important because they help scientists understand how people lived a long time ago. But there is still a lot we don't know about these people. We don't know what they looked like, or what they called themselves. We call them Neanderthals after the place where the first one was found. We also don't know why they disappeared. Maybe they changed and became us.

2 Can You Tell which Sentences are True and which are False?

- 1 The people in the cave had cars and houses.
- 2 The young woman found an old axe near the river.
- 3 The axe that the young woman found was bigger than hers.
- 4 The woman's father made a new axe that looked exactly like the old one.
- 5 The man became famous for making axes using a special kind of rock called flint.

- 6 The people in the cave learned how to make baskets from wood.
- 7 Fire was discovered by mistake when a man was walking in the mountains.
- 8 Scientists know everything about the people who lived in the cave.
- 9 The people in the cave were called Neanderthals because they found the first one there.
- 10 The reason why the people in the cave disappeared is known.