Paleolithic Age vs. Neolithic Age

Nomads turned Farmers
Paleolithic Age

• Old Stone Age
  – 2 million BC to 10,000 BC
• People were nomadic
• Lived in clans of 20-30 people
• Men hunted/fished, women gathered wild fruits/nuts/roots
• People depended entirely on their environment for their survival –especially the climate
Paleolithic Age…

- Made simple tools and weapons out of the materials at hand
  - Stone, bone, wood
- Developed a spoken (oral) language
- Invented clothing (wrapped animal skins around their bodies) to protect themselves from the environment
- Lived in caves & built fires
Paleolithic Age & Cave Art

• Found all over Europe, Asia, Australia & Africa
• Painted deer, horses, buffalo, bulls, cows, & stick-figure people
• Lie deep in the caves
• Main colors were red & black, with a little yellow, maroon & violet.
  – Paint was made out of materials ground into animal fats.
• The following pictures are from a Cave in Lascaux, France:
Bison
Great Hall of Bulls
Bull, Red & Brown Horses
Red Bull
Swimming Stags
Two Bulls
Horse
Group of Bull, Horses, Stags
Five Horses & a Cow
Cave Art…

• Recap:
  1) What type of materials did early man use to paint on the walls of caves?
  2) What colors were used the most in their cave art?
  3) In what part of the world is most cave art found?
Cave Art...

• Explore & Analyze:

4) Which was your favorite painting? Why?

5) How realistic or abstract are the paintings of early man? What could this tell us about them? Why do you think early man chose the subjects (i.e. the objects of the paintings) they did for their painting/drawings?
Religion in the Paleolithic Age

- Cave Art
  - Was it religious?
- Small stone statues of pregnant women
  - Mother Earth figure, Fertility, Survival?
- Burying dead
- Animism
  - Belief that the world was full of spirits and forces that might reside in animals, objects or dreams
Mesolithic Age

• Middle Stone Age
  – 10,000 to 7,000 BC

• Groups of people started to settle & stay in one place, but not permanently
Neolithic Age

• New Stone Age
  – Started about 7,000 BC
• Learned how to farm, which allowed them to stay in one place
  – Slash & Burn agriculture
• Built permanent villages
• Developed advanced tools
• Domesticated plants & animals
• Pottery & Weaving Skills
Neolithic Age…

• Neolithic Agricultural Revolution (the change from hunting and gathering to farming)
  • Led to a growth in population
    – Which led to the decline in women’s status, as men controlled family, economic & political life
  • Led to trade & accumulation of wealth
• Led to the development of new technology
  – Calendars, plow, arrowhead, ax heads
Neolithic Tools
Neolithic Pottery
Stonehenge

- An Archeological site in England built during the Neolithic Age (finished in the Bronze Age)
Aleppo & Jericho

Aleppo and Jericho are examples of early cities in the Fertile Crescent studied by Archaeologists.
Catalhoyuk

- Catalhoyuk is an example of a Neolithic settlement currently under excavation in Anatolia (Turkey).
Paleolithic vs. Neolithic

- **Food**: Hunting and gathering
- **Dwellings**: Caves, nomadic people
- **Technology**: Digging sticks, spears, axes, & spoken language
- **Religion & Art**: Cave paintings, religious statues, belief in afterlife

- **Food**: Farming, domesticated animals
- **Dwellings**: Permanent villages, stone houses
- **Technology**: Stone tools, polished ax heads, arrowheads, weaving cloth, calendar, wheel
- **Religion & Art**: Jewelry, buried dead in earthen tombs