

Topic - History

History

noun

The study of past events, particularly in human affairs.

W/c 18th January 2021

LO: To investigate Stonehenge

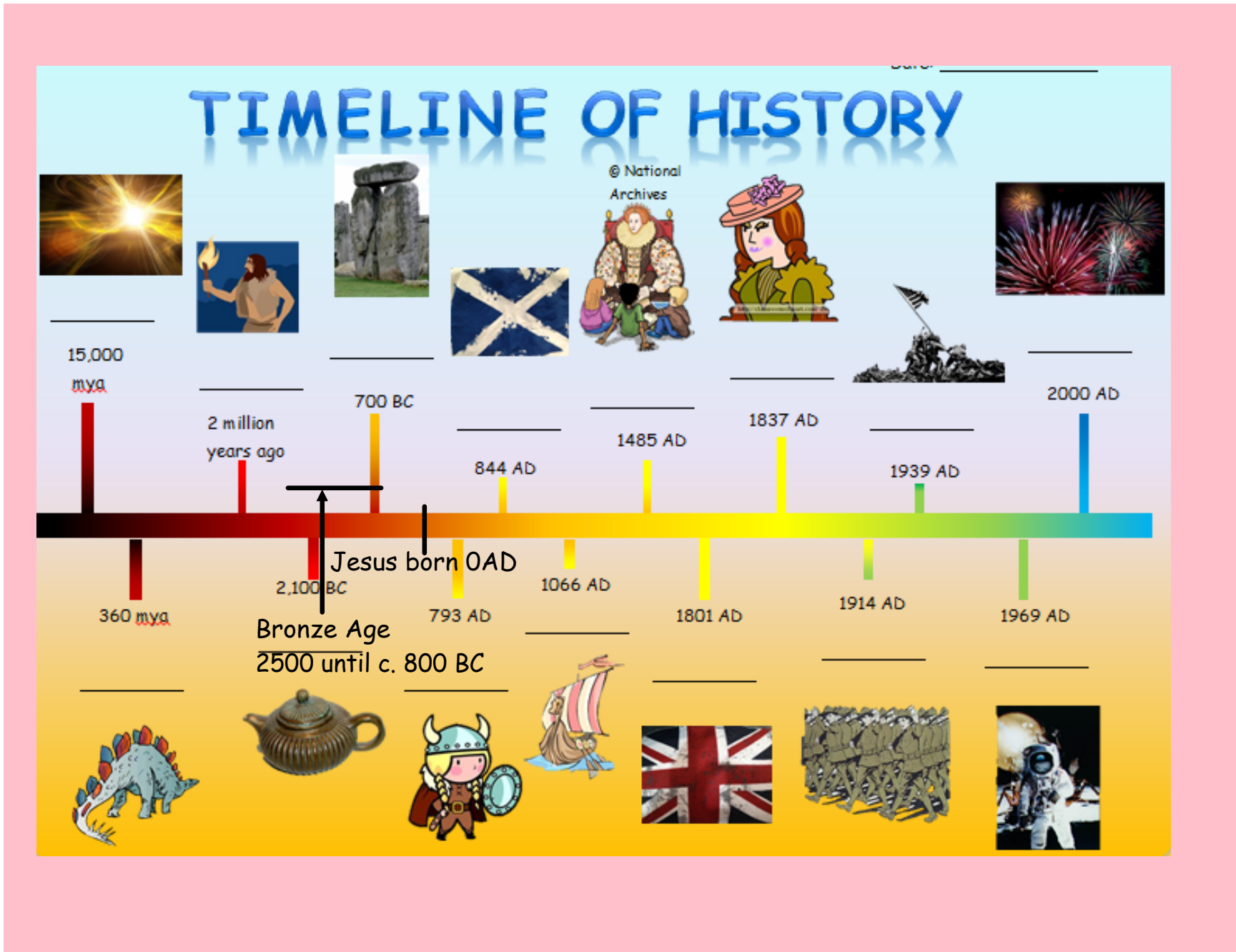
LO: Use literacy skills to standard in order
to communicate about the past.

Success criteria:

I know where Stonehenge was located

I understand how important it was

I understand how it was built



Does anyone know what this is?



This is Stonehenge

Stonehenge is one of the world's most famous monuments. It stands on Salisbury Plain, in Wiltshire, and its giant stones can be seen from miles around.



Stonehenge was built over many hundreds of years. Work began in the late Neolithic Age, around 3000 BC. Over the next thousand years, people made many changes to the monument. The last changes were made in the early Bronze Age, around 1500 BC.

 <https://www.bbc.com/bitesize/articles/zg8q2hv>

Building Stonehenge would have been a long and difficult task.

First boulders had to be cut into shape, archaeologists believe that this was done by hammered wedges of wood into cracks in the stone. The wood was soaked in water, it expanded and split the stone. Then builders used chisels and hammers to shape them.

The stones were then transported to the building site from as far away as Wales.

They were carried on rafts down rivers, then dragged overland by teams of men and oxen. It's believed that the stones were placed on giant wooden sledges and pulled along the ground using log rollers.



The builders dug deep ditches for the stones. Then they pulled on ropes to raise them and packed the ditches with rocks to hold the stones in place.



<https://www.english-heritage.org.uk/visit/places/stonehenge/history-and-stories/building-stonehenge/>



Let's see what it's like there now...

<https://www.english-heritage.org.uk/visit/places/stonehenge/history-and-stories/stonehenge360/>



People think that Stonehenge was built to study the movements of the Sun and Moon. Other people think it was a place of healing.

The ancient Britons believed that the Sun and Moon had a special power over their lives. It is very likely that they held special ceremonies at Stonehenge on Midsummer's Day (the longest day of the year) and on Midwinter's Day (the shortest day of the year).

Many experts believe that Stonehenge was used for funerals. They suggest that people carried the dead along the River Avon, and then walked up to Stonehenge in a grand procession. The most important funeral ceremony of the year was probably held on Midwinter's Night at Stonehenge.



Stonehenge is just one of hundreds of stone circles that have been found in Britain. During the early Bronze Age, circles built from stone or wood played a very important part in the religious life of the British people.





Task: Use the information to complete your own factsheet about Stonehenge. You must explain where it is, when it was built and what it was for. In the fun fact section you can include any information you like.

Where it is:

What it was for:



When it was built:

Fun facts:
