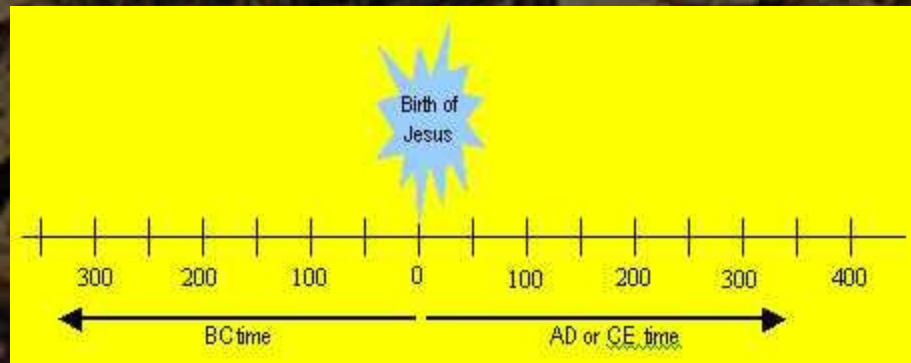


THE FIRST PEOPLE



DATING SYSTEMS

- **BC or BCE**
 - **BC = Before Christ**
 - **BCE = Before Common Era**
- **AD or CE**
 - **AD = Anno Domini** (what's it mean?)
 - **CE = Common Era**



HOW OLD IS IT?

- **Artifacts**

- **Archaeologists gather artifacts and other clues from dig site**

- **Carbon-14**



- **Carbon-14 is an element found in all living things**
- **Once something dies, the organism stops producing carbon, and it decays**
- **The amount of carbon left tells us how long ago the organism died**

PREHISTORY

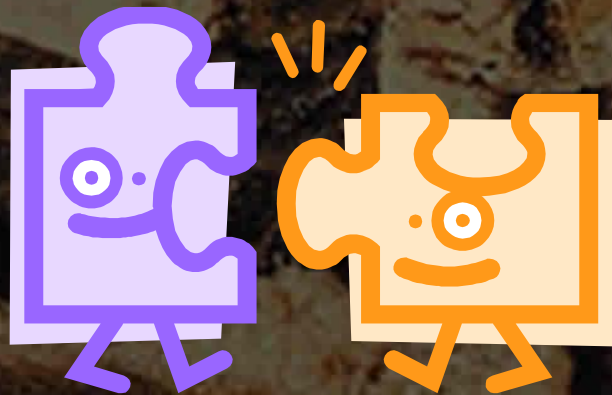
- **Writing not developed until 5000 years ago (around 3000 BC)**
- **Stories, drawings, and artifacts**



- **Prehistory (Prehistoric Times)**
 - **Time before written records**

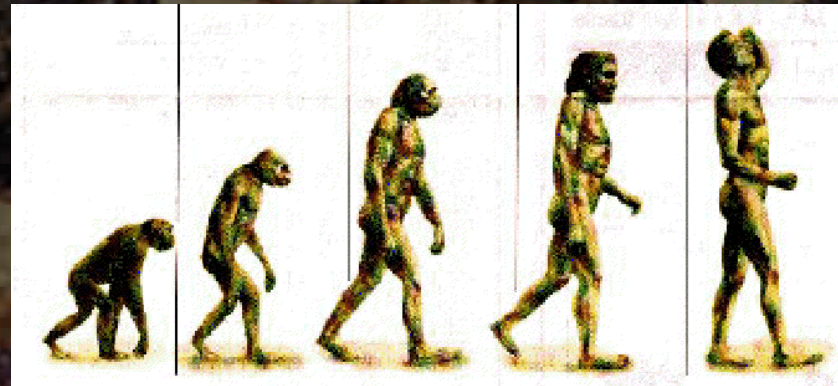
PREHISTORY

- ***What happened in prehistoric times ????***
 - ***Archaeologists, anthropologists, and historians piece together clues to figure out what happened***



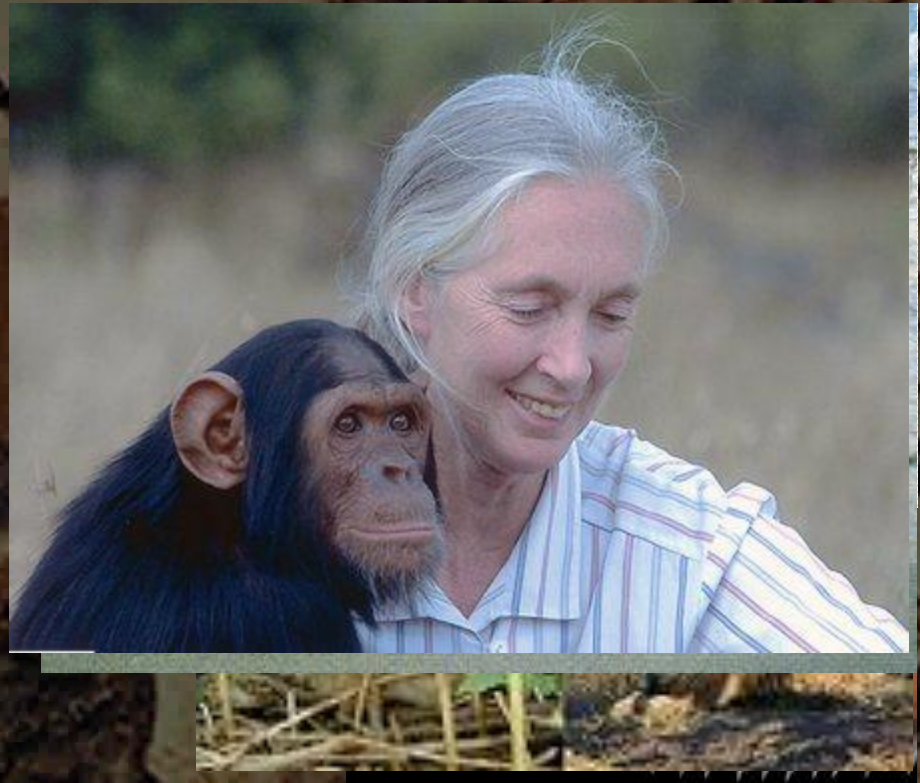
HOMINIDS

- **Hominids**
 - **The “Great Apes”**
 - **Humans and their early ancestors**
 - **Ancestors**
 - **Relatives who lived in the past**
- **Creation | Evolution | both?**
 - **You decide based on your beliefs**



HOMINID TAXONOMY

- **Kingdom:** *Animalia*
- **Phylum:** *Chordata*
- **Class:** *Mammalia*
- **Order:** *Primates*
- **Family:** *Hominidae*
- **Genus:** *Australopithecus / Homo*
- **Species:** (see the following slides)

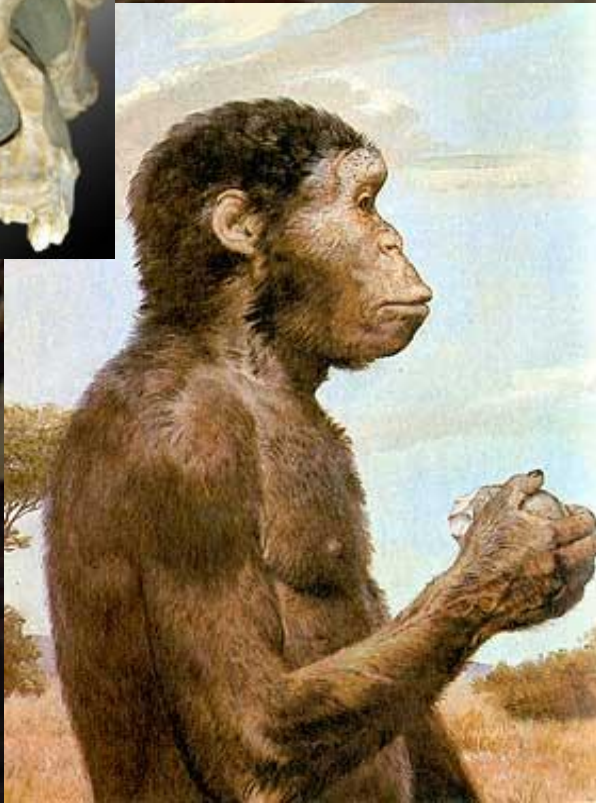


AUSTRALOPITHECUS

- **Australopithecus**
 - “Southern ape”
 - Africa 4-5 million years ago
 - Stood upright, walked on two legs
 - Brain 1/3 the size of modern humans
 - **Australopithecus afarensis**
 - “Lucy”



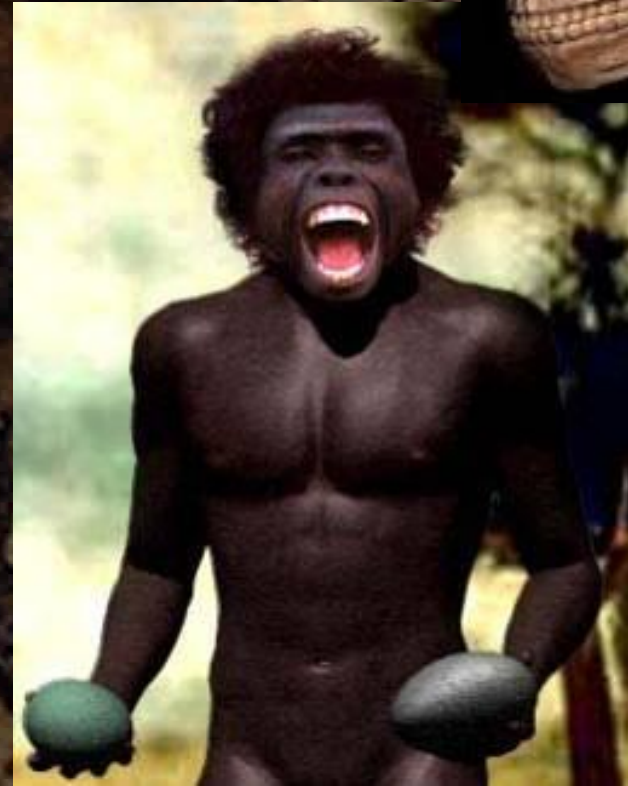
HOMO HABILIS



- **Homo habilis**
 - **“Handy man”**
 - **Africa 2.4 million years ago**
 - **Used early stone tools**
 - **Chopping and scraping**
 - **Brain 1/2 size of modern humans**

HOMO ERECTUS

- **Homo erectus**
 - **“Upright man”**
 - **Africa 2-1.5 million years ago**
 - **Used stone tools like hand ax**
 - **Learned to control fire**
 - **Migrated out of Africa to Asia and Europe**



HOMO NEANDERTHALENSIS



- **Homo neanderthalensis**
 - **“Neanderthal”**
 - **named for the Neander Valley, Germany, where first skull was found**
 - **Europe and Asia 350,000 years ago**
 - **Buried their dead**
 - **Developed language???**

HOMO SAPIENS

- **Homo sapiens**
 - **“Wise man”**
 - **Africa 200,000 years ago**
 - **Migrated around the world**
 - **Modern humans**
 - **Controlled fire and more complicated tools**
 - **Developed language**
 - **Extremely important step**



THE STONE AGES

- ***Paleolithic Era***
 - ***Old Stone Age***
 - ***Paleo “old” | lithic “stone”***
- ***Mesolithic Era***
 - ***Middle Stone Age***
 - ***Meso “middle” | lithic “stone”***
- ***Neolithic Era***
 - ***New Stone Age***
 - ***Neo “new” | lithic “stone”***

PALEOLITHIC ERA

- **Beginning of humanity (4.5 million years ago) until about 10,000 BC (end of last ice age)**
- **Sharpened stone tools**
- **No developed agriculture**
- **Hunter-gatherer societies**
 - **Hunter-gatherers**
 - **Hunted animals**
 - **Gathered plants, nuts, fruit**
 - **Societies**
 - **Shared common culture**



MESOLITHIC ERA

- **About 10,000 BC to 5,000 BC**
- **No developed agriculture**
- **Used more complex tools**
 - **Hooks and spears for fishing**
 - **Bows and arrows for hunting**
- **More complex societies**
- **Migration over Bering Land Bridge after ice age → Beringia**



NEOLITHIC ERA

- **Began anywhere from 10,000 to 5,000 BC (depending on location)**
- **The “Neolithic Revolution”**
 - **Development of agriculture**
 - **Agriculture**
 - **Farming → especially the “three sisters”**
 - **Domestication of plants and animals**
 - **Domestication**
 - **Taming wild plants and animals for human use**



NEOLITHIC ERA

- **Very complex societies and tools**
 - **Specialization of skills**
 - **Lived in small “tribes”, ruled by a chief or a council of elders**
 - **Male-dominated groups**



NEOLITHIC ERA

- **Polytheistic**
 - **Worshipped nature**
- **Built megaliths**
 - **“mega” = big | “liths” = stones**
 - **Like Stonehenge**
 - **For religion? For a calendar?**

