



**CLASS: V**

**Subject: Social Studies**

**Date: 20/05/2020**

**Topic: The Life of the Early Humans -- The Stone Age**

**Time Limit: 30 Mins**

*Worksheet No. : 8*

*[Copy the questions following the notes and solve them on a sheet of paper date wise. Keep the worksheets ready in a file to be submitted on the opening day.]*

### **The Discovery of fire**

It is believed that humans discovered fire in the Palaeolithic Age. It is possible that they observed fire in wildfires, volcanoes, lightning or in the sparks created while they sharpened their stone tools. This may have helped them understand how fires could be started and controlled.

This discovery significantly changed the way early humans lived.

1. Fire could make a place warm. So human beings found the confidence to live even in cold places, and thus spread over a geographically larger area.

2. Ever since the discovery of fire, humans started to cook their meat instead of eating it raw. Cooking the meat killed the germs in them and made it easier to chew. As a result, people began to live longer and healthier lives.
3. Early humans began to gather in groups around campfires, which helped them build communities over time. The need to communicate with others in the group may have encouraged the growth of language.

### **Sites**

The Hunsgi-Baichbal Valley on the banks of the river Krishna in Karnataka is one of the most important sites of the Old Stone Age found in India. Excavations here have unearthed numerous small settlements and stone tools and weapons. Hand axes, cleavers, scrapers and knives were the most commonly found tools.

### **THE MESOLITHIC PERIOD OR THE MIDDLE STONE AGE**

"Meso" means "middle" in Greek. Thus, Mesolithic Age means the Middle Age. It began from around 20,000 BCE and lasted till around 8000 BCE.

### **Lifestyle**

During this period, the Earth's climate became warmer, and the ice that covered huge parts of the Earth's surface began to melt. As a result, a variety of grain-bearing grasses became common in many places. It was in these areas that humans started settling in houses made of sticks, twigs and mud. However, they also continued to live in caves and rock shelters.

### **Tools**

In the Mesolithic period, bigger tools like hand axes and spheroids gave way to smaller, finer and sharper tools--known as **microliths**. Microliths, used as the tip of spears and arrows, made it easier to hunt fast-moving animals.

## **ASSIGNMENT**

### **A. Fill in the blanks:-**

1. It is believed that humans discovered fire in the -----Age.
2. The ----- valley on the banks of the river ----- in Karnataka is one of the most important sites of the Old Stone age.
3. Small sharp stone tools made by humans in the Mesolithic period was called-----.

**B. Write True/False and correct the false one:-**

1. The Old Stone Age saw the discovery of fire.
2. Farming was practised widely in the Old Stone Age.
3. The Earth's climate became warmer in the Mesolithic Age.

**C. Answer the following:-**

1. What are the differences between the Palaeolithic and the Mesolithic periods?