

10,000 BC Start of the Mesolithic period. End of the last Ice Age.

Mesolithic people were still hunters and gatherers. They would have moved around seasonally.



A reconstruction of a Mesolithic group by the banks of the river Arun, Sussex © Wessex Archaeology

Flint tools were still used but they were smaller and more delicate.



A rod-shaped flint microlith (length 26mm) from Dorchester, Dorset. © Wessex Archaeology



Mesolithic adze from Hertfordshire © Wessex Archaeology

Britain was still connected by a land bridge to Europe.



Redrawn from Coles 1988

By 6000 BC the sea level had risen and Britain became an island.