Chapter 1 Section 2: Stone Age

Pg. 16-21
Do Now: Define Key Terms

Chapter 1 Section 2: Prehistory

- Hominid
- Stone Age
- Nomad
- Domesticate
Early Humans

- Here are images of Footprints found in East Africa – Laetoli
- Earliest known prints of HOMINIDS – term that refers to modern humans & earlier groups that may have included ancestors or relatives of modern humans
- This evidence helps scientists understand early humans.
Settling New Areas

- 1,000,000 years ago – humans were *nomads* (people who have no settled home)
- Began to spread out over the *Earth*
- 500,000 years ago - evidence of early humans in *Asia & Europe*
- Modern Humans originated *100,000 years ago*
- 30,000 years ago humans crossed from *Asia* into *North America*
- 10,000 years ago humans were as far south as *Chile in South America*
Stone Age Hunting & Gathering

- **Stone Age** = Earliest period of human culture
- Humans used stone, wood, and animal bones to make tools
- Lasted for hundreds/thousands of years until humans learned to use metal for tools
- Divided into 3 periods: Old, Middle, & New Stone Ages
FIRE!

- During the Stone Age, Between 1,400,000 and 500,000 years ago, humans learned to use fire.

- DISCOVERY OF FIRE CHANGED THE LIFE OF HUMANS IN MANY WAYS
BENEFITS OF FIRE

Light & Warmth
- Allowed humans to see after daylight hours
- Light was used to scare away predators
- The warmth kept them from freezing & they could move to colder climates
- The warmth also brought them together as a group that learned how to communicate

Food
- Cooked food killed off harmful bacteria
- Cooked food released carbohydrates & proteins that helped the human brain to grow

Tool & Crafts
- Fire could be used to smelt metals out of stones
- Fire could be used to heat clay to make bowls, containers, pottery
Stages of the Stone Age

- Hunter-Gatherers – Old Stone Age
- More advanced tools – Middle Stone Age
- Started to farm – New Stone Age
OLD Stone Age Way of Life

Food:
- Practiced AGRICULTURE
  - grew grains - wheat, barley, peas, lentils
  - raised animals - cattle, sheep, and goats

Clothing:
- Made of animal skin and plant fibers

Shelter:
- PERMANENT settlements, often made from mud bricks

Technology:
- Tools/weapons made of stone, bone and wood
- Began using copper & bronze to make tools/weapons
NEW STONE AGE WAY OF LIFE

Food:
❖ Hunted animals such as antelope, bison, & wooly mammoths
❖ Gathered roots, berries, leaves, & seeds

Clothing:
❖ Made of animal skin

Shelter:
❖ Lived in caves & tents made from animal hides & mammoth bones

Technology:
❖ Tools made of stone, bone and wood
❖ Tools includes axes, bows, and spearheads
Early Farmers

- About 11,000 years ago- people discovered farming – planting seeds and new crops would grow! Marks beginning of New Stone Age in Southwestern Asia
- Old & Middle continued in other parts of the world
- No longer had to be nomads because they … Controlled their food source
- Women probably discovered farming since they were responsible for gathering plants & seeds
Farming Around the World

- What are important factors for farming?
  - Fertile soil
  - Gentle rains
  - Length of growing season
Plant Selection

- *Domesticated plants* – people would choose seeds from the biggest, best-tasting plants – seeds changed from wild plants
- picture of corn – notice how it’s changed over time
Raising Animals

- Humans also learned to **tame** wild animals and **breed** them for human use
- First domesticated animals were probably **dogs** – helped hunters
- Then larger animals – **sheep, goats, pigs**
- Gradual & careful breeding - developed animals that were gentler & provided more milk or wool
- Sources of **milk, meat, wool, and skins**
- By 2500 BC – **cattle, camels, horses, donkeys** to carry heavy loads
Challenge of Domestication

- Many different animals have been captured & tamed... But, not easy to breed in captivity
  - Ancient Indians tamed elephants for use in battle
  - Ancient Assyrians & Egyptians tamed cheetahs for hunting
Wrap-Up

- How did hominids survive during the Old Stone Age?
- What important skills did hominids of the Old Stone Age use to find food?
- How did survival skills change as people began to settle?
- What marked the beginning of the New Stone Age?
- How was life different in the New Stone Age from that of the Old Stone Age?
- What are the effects of geography and climate on farming?