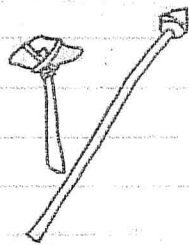


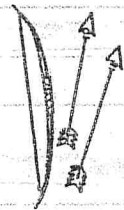
THE PALEOLITHIC LIFE

The first humans lived in the PALEOLITHIC ERA, or the Old Stone Age (~2,500,000 BCE to around 10,000 BCE). Humans made simple tools from hard stones such as flint. They made:

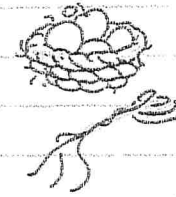
hand axes and stone spearheads attached to wooden poles, which made hunting large animals easier



the bow and arrow

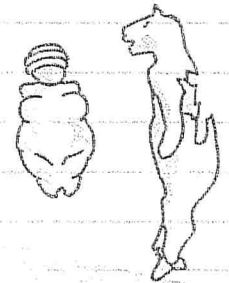


harpoons and fishhooks of bone, to catch fish and other sea animals



baskets to gather and carry food, and rope from vines twisted together

small statues from stone and ivory and



bone flutes

• people who live by hunting/fishing, and harvesting wild food

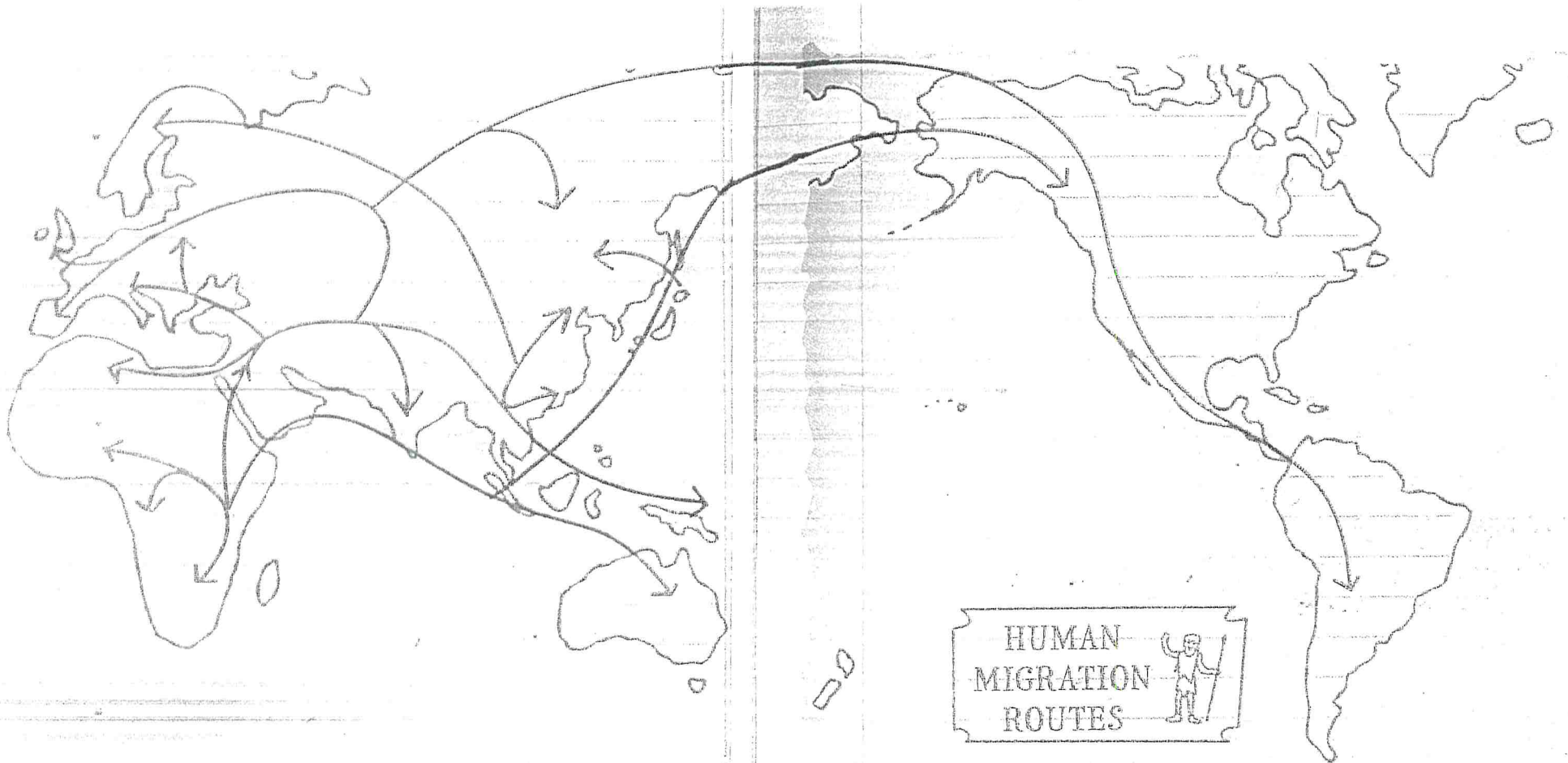
NOMAD

person who has no permanent home and travels to find food

The Paleolithic people were hunters and gatherers. They probably divided labor to feed themselves, with men

hunting and women gathering berries, nuts, and plants. They were **NOMADS**, moving from place to place to survive in small groups. They followed grazing animals, and they changed location based on the growing season—when plants stopped growing, they would move again. Paleolithic people had no permanent homes and built new shelters wherever they went.

THIS WOULD BE LIKE MOVING AROUND FROM SCHOOL TO SCHOOL WITH YOUR ENTIRE HISTORY CLASS.



The GREAT MIGRATION

The GREAT MIGRATION was a time of vast movement and long-distance travel for humans, who were beginning to explore other continents. Most humans followed the animals they hunted across the continents, often moving toward wet climates with lakes and fertile lands. The **ICE AGE** pushed humans toward warmer regions and connected

the continents through land bridges that were uncovered as sea levels lowered. Humans walked from Africa until they reached every continent except Antarctica. It took roughly one million years!

The **ICE AGE** was the most recent glacial period, when much of the earth was covered by ice and oceans were frozen over. It lasted about 100,000 years and ended around 10,000 BCE.

☆ Chapter 2 ☆

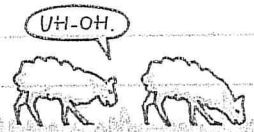
THE NEOLITHIC ERA

8000 BCE-4000 BCE

"New Stone Age," when humans developed farming to create permanent settlements

During the Great Migration, humans looked for new, warmer regions with fertile soil to grow their own food and settle down. Early humans were nomads, moving from place to place, but the development of **SYSTEMATIC AGRICULTURE** in the **NEOLITHIC ERA** marked a change to a more **SEDENTARY** lifestyle for most humans. The **NEOLITHIC REVOLUTION** was a fundamental change in the way many humans lived. Humans could now keep animals and grow food on a regular basis, with recurring and more reliable harvests.

SEDENTARY
staying in one place



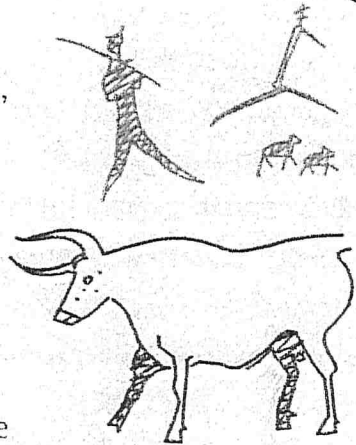
AGRICULTURAL CHANGES

About 9,000 years ago, farmers started planting **STAPLE** crops—crops people would rely on most for food.

ART was one form of communication for the nomadic Paleolithic people, probably used for telling stories and sharing myths.

Sometimes, hunting strategies were drawn on the walls of a cave. Stone lamps filled with animal fat would light the caves while the Paleolithic people painted.

Animal fat was also used to make paint: Mixed with various mineral ores, artists used fat to create reds, yellows, and blacks for their work. Artists would use their fingers to draw on the walls of the caves or they would use sticks, leaves, and hollow reeds to blow paint through. Sometimes they left handprints, maybe as a signature. Most cave paintings show animals during a hunt, and some anthropologists think the paintings were created as rituals to ensure a good hunt.



PETROGLYPH
a carving or inscription on a rock



In China, people planted rice and other crops.

In Central America, people planted corn, beans, and squash.



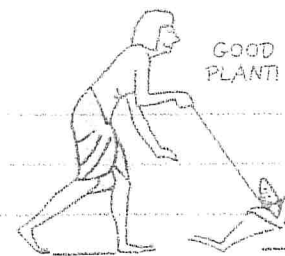
In Africa, people planted tubers, such as yams.

Many crops were important in ancient religions and creation stories. Early farmers discovered that grinding grains makes flour, which can be used to make bread. People figured out where soil was fertile—where plants would grow better. Areas with long springs and summers were popular farming sites, since their climate helped crops thrive. Lakes and rivers were good places to settle too, because they had water and provided an extra source of nutrition through fish and other seafood.

When planting crops, farmers chose seeds from the biggest, best-looking, best-tasting plants. Then they would repeat

that the next time. Slowly but surely, each harvest would bring up a better, stronger, tastier round of crops. This process is called the **DOMESTICATION OF PLANTS**.

This was a huge leap forward—some might even say, revolutionary.



DOMESTICATE
to tame or adapt for your own use
animals + plants

The **AGRICULTURAL REVOLUTION** (sometimes called the **NEOLITHIC REVOLUTION**) refers to the period when humans transitioned from hunting and gathering to agriculture. This shift led to sedentary communities, the establishment of social classes, and the rise of civilizations.

The DEVELOPMENT of SEDENTARY COMMUNITIES

ANIMAL DOMESTICATION began when humans tamed wild animals like sheep, goats, and pigs for meat, milk, and wool. Most likely, the dog was one of the first animals to be domesticated, helping humans hunt larger animals long before humans settled down. In some parts of the world, bigger animals were domesticated. In India, for example, wild elephants were tamed.

EVEN DOGS WERE ONCE WILD. THEY HAD TO FIND REAL BONES BY THEMSELVES TO CHEW ON.

Farming techniques like the **IRRIGATION SYSTEM** were also crucial for settling early communities. Irrigation systems were a series of canals built to bring water to the land.

Because sedentary communities grew their own food, they often ended up with a **SURPLUS**, or more than was needed. A food surplus could feed many more people, so communities could expand and didn't have to follow herds around.

LIKE WHEN YOU PUT LEFTOVERS IN A DOGGY BAG

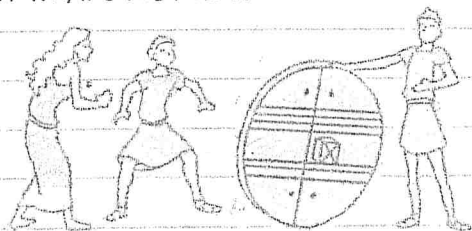
The **EARLY VILLAGES**

As more people lived around farms and food surpluses increased, people started to have free time to work on projects that didn't involve just finding or growing food. This led to more **DIVISION OF LABOR**: people specializing in different roles within a society.

People started to become **ARTISANS**, workers skilled in a particular craft. They made baskets, tools, pottery, or fabric. Metal tools made from copper and then from **BRONZE** became more sophisticated. Iron was later used to make strong, durable tools. The **WHEEL** was also invented around this time. Like fire, the wheel changed everything.

A MIXTURE OF COPPER AND TIN

WOW! BUT WHAT'S THE POINT?



Think of all the things we use **WHEELS** for—cars, bikes, strollers, shopping carts, trains, and buses too! Life would be a lot harder without the wheel!

MAJOR EVENTS IN...

6-7 million years ago:
First humanlike species appears, which has a chimpanzee-sized brain.



4 million years ago:
Walking upright but also still climbing trees



6 million years ago:
We start walking upright around now.



2.6 million years ago:
Technology! We start using stone flakes and cores to cut and crush food.



Prehistoric Human History

↑ (before written language)

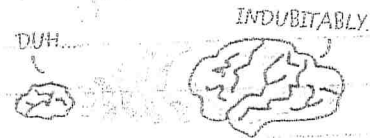
500,000 years ago:
We discover fire, which changes our diet, gives us a warm hangout, and helps us to stay safe from predators.



80,000 years ago:
We leave Africa and begin the Great Migration.

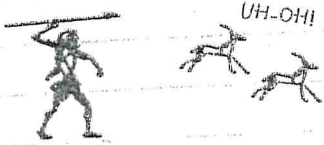


200,000-800,000 years ago:
Our brains rapidly grow bigger, so we communicate better and more of us survive in the harsh environment.



THE LAST 100,000 YEARS → of human history

100,000 YEARS AGO:
We hold burials and create tools to capture prey that runs faster than we do.



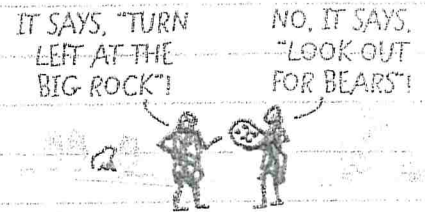
40,000-50,000 YEARS AGO:
Humans have migrated far enough from Africa to settle in Europe and Australia.



30,000-23,000 YEARS AGO:
We begin using needles made from bone to sew clothes that fit us better.



8,000 YEARS AGO:
The first written documents are created using symbols. During the next few thousand years, symbols will be replaced with words.



77,000 YEARS AGO:
The first evidence appears that shows we are making marks in objects to count or record information.



35,000 YEARS AGO:
Music to our ears! Basic three-holed flutes provide entertainment and culture. We also continue drawing.



9,000 YEARS AGO:
We start domesticating plants and animals, which leads to sedentary communities.



20 YEARS AGO:
Human population doubles in just 40 years, from 3 billion to 6 billion people.



