# **Prehistoric People**

- Prehistory: a time before written history
- Archaeologists: scientists who study the remains of the cultures of ancient people.
- Hominid: Human-like individual-lived 1.75 million years ago
- Use carbon 14 dating- measures radioactive carbon left in an object



## The Old Stone Age

- Prehistory- divided into periods according to tools used
- Oldest is "Old Stone Age" or "Paleolithic Age"
  Used tools made out of stone, wood, and bone
  - Began millions of years ago and ended approx.
     8,000 b.c.e.

 - 99% of our history has been spent in the "Paleolithic Age"

- Nomads or wanderers
- Many different groups over the years
- Neanderthal vs Cro-Magnon
- Neanderthal- discovered in Neander Valley in Germany
  - 5 feet tall, short limbs, heavy for height
  - had more advanced tools, weapons, and fire
  - may have practiced religion (buried their dead)









#### Cro-Magnons

- Possibly destroyed Neanderthals
- More complex weapons, used fishhook, harpoon, and eventually bow and arrow
- Developed art

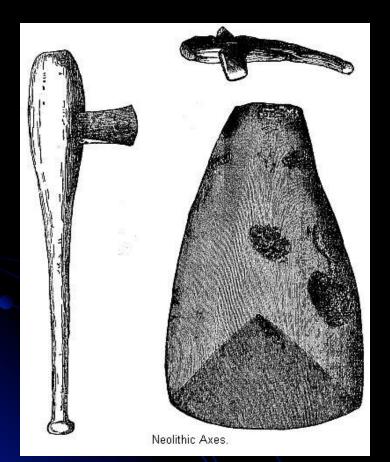




#### New Stone Age

- x10,000 years ago the Earth began to warm up and glaciers melted
- xPeople's diets changed and began eating more plants
- By 5,000 b.c.e. farming began to spread
   These people are called neoliths
  - Another name for New Stone Age is "Neolithic Age"
  - People also started domesticating animals (sheep, goats, cows, horses, and pigs)
  - Started to use pottery and weaving

#### **Neolithic Tools & Pottery**





### Culture & History

- Cultures- societies develop cultures over many years by passing down aspects of their lives
- Civilizations- human society marked by advanced levels of economy, government, arts and technology.

- Farmers eventually began growing surplus crops

- Other occupations created
- Artisans: skilled workers

### **XCulture & History Cont.**

- Trade began along with the next period (historic period)
  - Marked by permanent records
  - Took place in four major river valleys
  - Tigris-Euphrates, Nile, Indus in India, & Huang He (Yellow River) in China

# The End

