

Lesson-3

The Agriculturist: The Neolithic Age.

Activities and Question and Answers

A. Fill in the blanks:

1. The Age where early humans used both metals and stones was known as the Chalcolithic Age.
2. The Beginning of farming and domestication of animals led to the early humans living settled lives.
3. Ornaments in the Neolithic period were made of sea shells and animal bones.
4. The potter's wheel was used to make pots.
5. Burial sites show that people believed in life after death.

B. Fill in the blanks with the correct answers:

1. During the Neolithic Period, the dead were buried _____ beneath the floor or in simple pits.
(a) In graveyards (b) in stone graves
(c) **Inside their houses** (d) outside their houses.
2. The stone that was used in making tools during the Neolithic period was called____
(a) Jadeite (b) basalt (c) amphibolites (d) **all the three**.
3. Neolithic sites are found in _____.
(a) **Mehrgarh** (b) Mathura (c) Ujjain (d) none of these.
4. A new skill associated with the Neolithic period is _____.
(a) **Weaving** (b) pottery (c) both A & B (d) none of these.

C. Write T for true and F for false.

1. The Mesolithic period came before the Palaeolithic period. **F**
2. The Neolithic people buried the dead. **T**
3. The Discovery of fire is associated with the Chalcolithic Age. **F**
4. Wheat and barley were two important crops. **T**
5. People began to use copper during the Chalcolithic Age. **T**

D. Answer these questions in Brief:

1. What are Pit dwelling?

Ans.1 The early humans built houses which were mainly round, oval or rectangular pit houses. There were steps leading to these pit houses.

2. How did the Wheel help early humans?

Ans.2 They could travel faster and comfortably. The wheel also helped them to transport heavy objects from one place to another.

3. How did the domestication of animals help early humans?

Ans.3 Domestication of animals provided them with regular supply of meat and milk, and animals could help them in their agricultural work too.

4. Give examples of the crops grown by the Neolithic people?

Ans.4 The Neolithic people cultivated wheat, oats, barley and pulses.

E Answer these questions in Detail:

1. Draw a comparison between the Palaeolithic and Neolithic periods?

Ans.1 The Palaeolithic Age is also known as the Old Stone Age. It dates from approximately 5000 to 10,000 BCE. People of the Palaeolithic Age were hunters and gatherers. They led a nomadic life. In the Palaeolithic age, humans used tools made out of stone and bones. These tools were used in hunting and fishing. The Palaeolithic people lived in caves in groups of 10 or 20.

The Neolithic age, also called the New Stone Age, covers a period from about 9000 BCE to 3500 BCE. People were not hunter gatherers anymore and they settled down at one place. They started growing grains and also started storage of food. when people started agriculture, they used tools made up of copper. The Neolithic man lived in a much more complex community. They lived in villages of 200 – 300 people. They even owned private.

2. The wheel was a revolutionary invention in the Neolithic period. Explain this?

Ans.2 the invention of the wheel was one of the major achievements of the Neolithic people. It brought the development of the earliest forms of vehicles- a wagon, four wheels and an axle. They could now travel faster and comfortably. It also helped them to transport heavy loads and from one place to another and to draw water from the well. The potter's wheel soon was used to make pottery.

3. What were the materials used for making ornaments during the Neolithic period?

Ans.3 The Materials used for making ornaments were: sea shells, animal bones, clay, silver and gold.

4. Explain the burial customs of the Neolithic people?

Ans.4 The dead were buried inside the houses, under the floor or in simple pits. They were buried along with items such as stone tools, pottery, jewellery, animal offerings and other things. These practices suggest that people believed in life after death. Some burial sites have been found at Mehrgarh.

5. What are the reasons that led early humans to begin living together as a community?

Ans.5 The Neolithic people soon began to live in groups. These groups led to the formation of tribes. Tribal people are those who live close to nature. They realized that together they could own large pieces of land and it was good and easy to work in groups. The men did all the hard work where as the ladies and children did all the light jobs.

THE END