

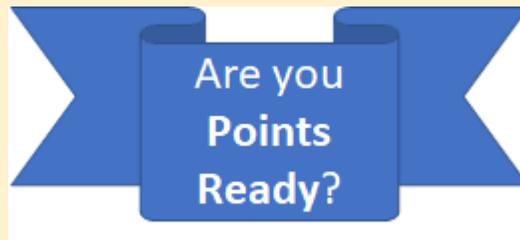
Africa – Cradle of Humanity: Desert People

Lesson 4

Silent Study Starter: Read about the San People. Find out 3 interesting facts to share with the class.

Learning Intention: Where were the first people? Where did they go and what did they do?

Success Criteria: I can name a group of people still living hunter gatherer life styles in Africa today.



Cradle of humanity – First peoples

Earliest humans

- This map shows the rift valley. Modern humans (Homo Sapiens) evolved here nearly 200,000 years ago.
- The early humans lived as hunters and gatherers of food. They did not have farms or settlements. Gradually they populated the earth. We are all related to these ancestors.
 - Watch [this](#) to see how early humans populated the globe. Work as a pair or group to answer all the questions.
- Make a timeline of early human history in your jotter.

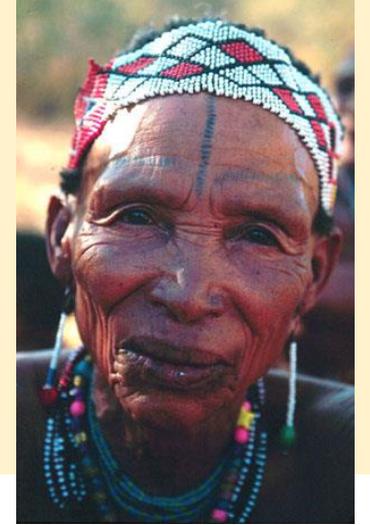
Video Questions:

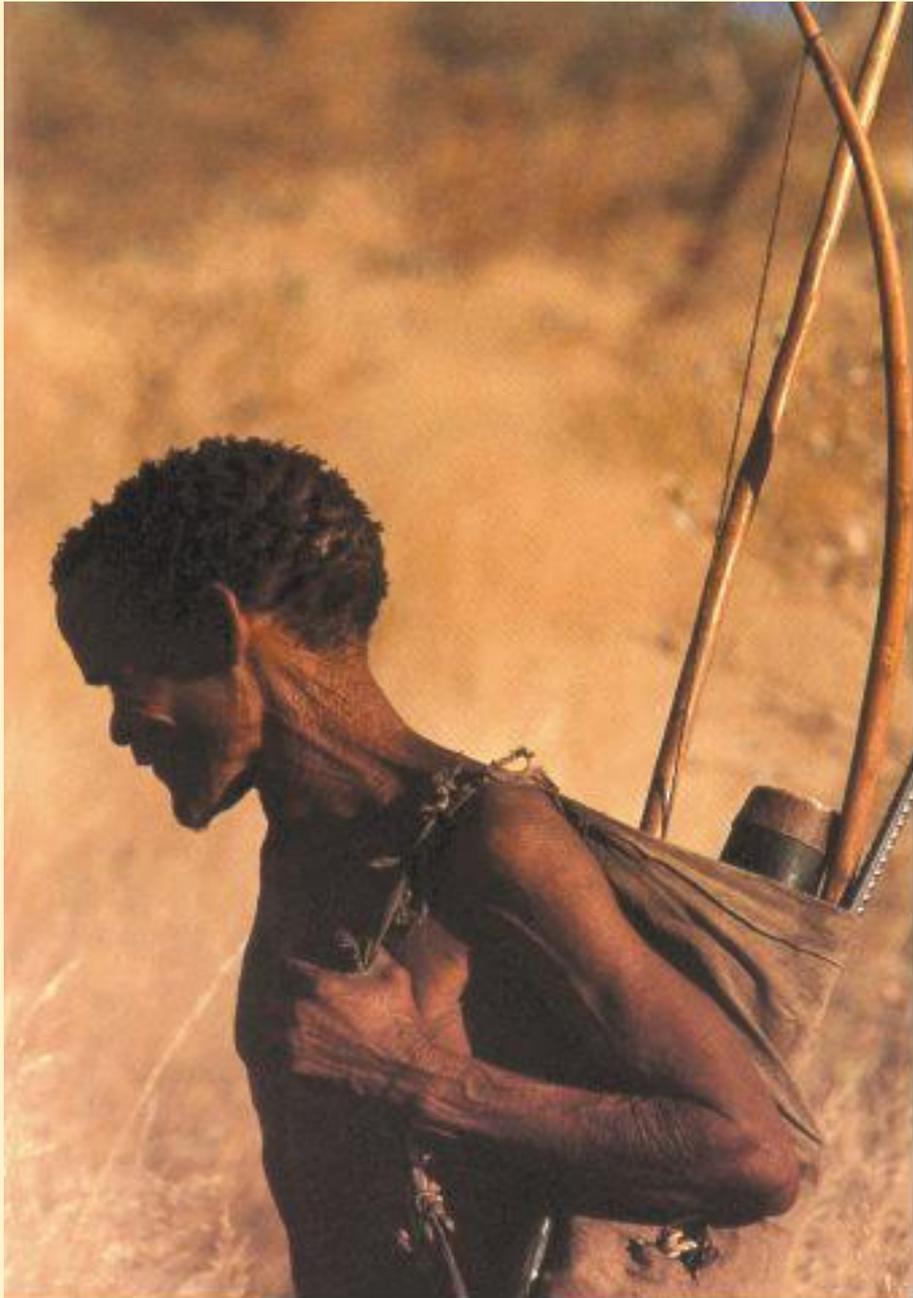
1. What happened 200,000 years ago?
2. What happened 70,000 years ago?
3. What happened 60,000 years ago?
4. What happened 50,000 years ago?
5. What happened 40,000 years ago?
6. What happened 35,000 years ago?
7. What happened 15,000 years ago?

Cradle of humanity – San Bushmen

The San Bushmen

- These desert people have a history that goes back over 20,000 years. Their **genetics** are closely linked to the first humans to appear in Africa nearly 200,000 years ago.
- The San People live in the Kalahari desert in South West Africa.
- The San People of the Kalahari are **Nomadic** which means that they have no permanent home.
- They move around the landscape surviving by **hunting and gathering** the resources they need.
- Consult your silent study worksheet – write down five facts you can find out about the San Bushmen.
- You should already have identified Botswana and Namibia on your map from lesson 1. Now add the Kalahari desert with a colouring pencil.





Look at this San Bushman. What can you tell about him from this picture? Make notes in your jotter.

- They are hunters.
- They are very fit.
- They hunt using bow and arrow.
- They need few clothes.
- They make all that they need.

HOTS

- Why is his skin dark?
 - Why do they have low levels of body fat?
 - Why do they have a small stature (short/slight build)?
 - In [this video](#) you can hear the use of 'click' language?
- Can you think of a reason why hunter societies like these have developed this language style?

San People have to be expert hunters to survive in the hot desert of the Kalahari.

Watch the video on poison preparation. Answer the following questions:

1. What is the plant used to make poison?
2. How does it attack the body?
3. Why does the tribesman check his fingers?
4. Why do they cut out the meat around the wound?
5. How else do they gather food in the video?

Now watch the video on the hunt techniques. In this video the San do something called endurance hunting. Answer the following questions:

1. Why do the San hunt in silence?
2. How long is it since they have successfully hunted?
3. How do they follow their prey?
4. Why do they put meat in the trees?

HOTS

- Why do they travel in single file?
- Why do they travel slowly?
- Why don't they travel at night when it is cooler?

Now make a poster that summarizes the San Bushmen:

- Where are they from?
- What is their society like?
- How do they hunt and gather?



Why is it important to protect their culture?

Lesson 4 Additional Silent Starter

- Can you look up in your notes or remember from last lesson these important terms:
 1. Nomadic
 2. Hunter gatherer
 3. Who were the San Bushmen?
 4. How had they adapted to their environment?
 5. Where is the rift valley and why is it important to us all?