

All About Clay!

Clay is made from minerals, animals and plants which have been ground into tiny particles over thousands of years.



Natural clay on a dried river bed

Adding water to dried clay, turns it back into a wet, squidgy mess!

Prehistoric people discovered that firing clay objects in a hot oven (kiln) made the clay set very hard. This meant that the objects could be used over and over again.



Stone age people probably used kilns like this turf kiln to fire clay pots.



These pots were made by Stone Age people in Britain.

This pot was made by a Bronze Age person in Britain.



Stone age, Bronze age, Iron Age, Roman, Anglo Saxon and Viking people made different shaped pots and used different patterns to decorate their clay. This helps archaeologists find out who made the pots and how long ago they were made.