



# An Archaeological Mystery

## Be an Archaeologist 1



My name is Jack Stone-Hunter and I am an **ARCHAEOLOGIST**. Today you are going to help me solve an ancient mystery! We have started excavating a **HILLFORT** on top of a very steep hill.

At the moment we can only see lumps and bumps in the ground, but a team of archaeologists have dug holes called **TRENCHES** to see what's there under the ground. Can you help us discover what used to be there?



This picture is a photograph of the site, with the hillfort highlighted, taken from a helicopter high up in the air. What can you see?

- The **HILLFORT** is on a very high hill
- Two of the sides are very steep
- There is a river in the valley

We are going to look at three types of **EVIDENCE SHEET** to help us put together the story of what the hillfort was, what happened there, and the people who lived there.



Where you see the trowel, you will be looking at what the archaeologists saw when we dug the **TRENCHES** in the ground



When you see the stone arrowhead, you will be learning about the objects the archaeologists found, such as **STONE TOOLS** and **POTTERY**



When you see the skull, you will be learning about the **SKELETONS** that the archaeologists found.



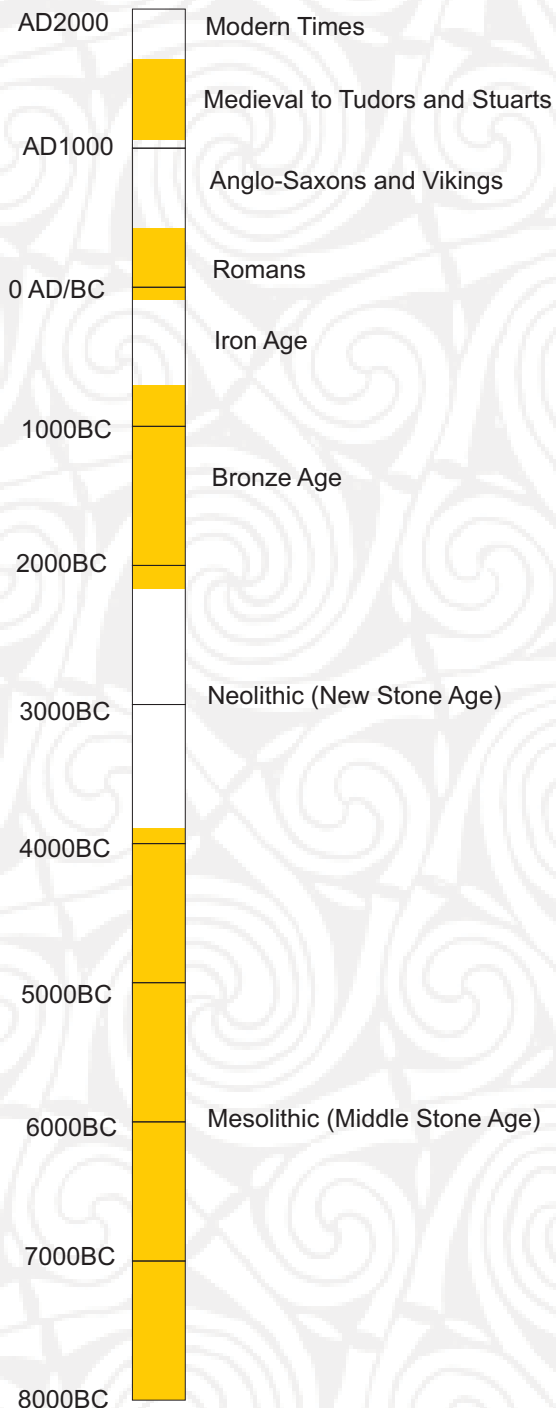
# An Archaeological Mystery

## Be an Archaeologist 2



The archaeologists need your help to answer some important questions about the **HILLFORT**?

- What did the hillfort look like?
- What do you think the hillfort was for?
- How old is the hillfort?
- Who were the people that lived there?
- How did they live and what did they eat?
- When did people stop living in the hillfort?
- Why did they stop living there?
- Were the people who lived in the hillfort the only people who have used it in the past?



To the left you can see a **TIMELINE** with all the different periods of the past on it.

Some of the **EVIDENCE SHEETS** you will look at will talk about different dates or periods.

You can use this **TIMELINE** to find out what these dates mean and when things happened in the past.





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## Be an Archaeologist 3



**LAYERS** are very important in archaeology because where something is in the ground can help us tell how old it is.

The lower things are, the older they are, and the higher up, the more recent.

If you imagine that the **LAYERS** underground are like this cake. To build the cake you have to start at the bottom and build it up one layer at a time so each layer is older than the ones above it.



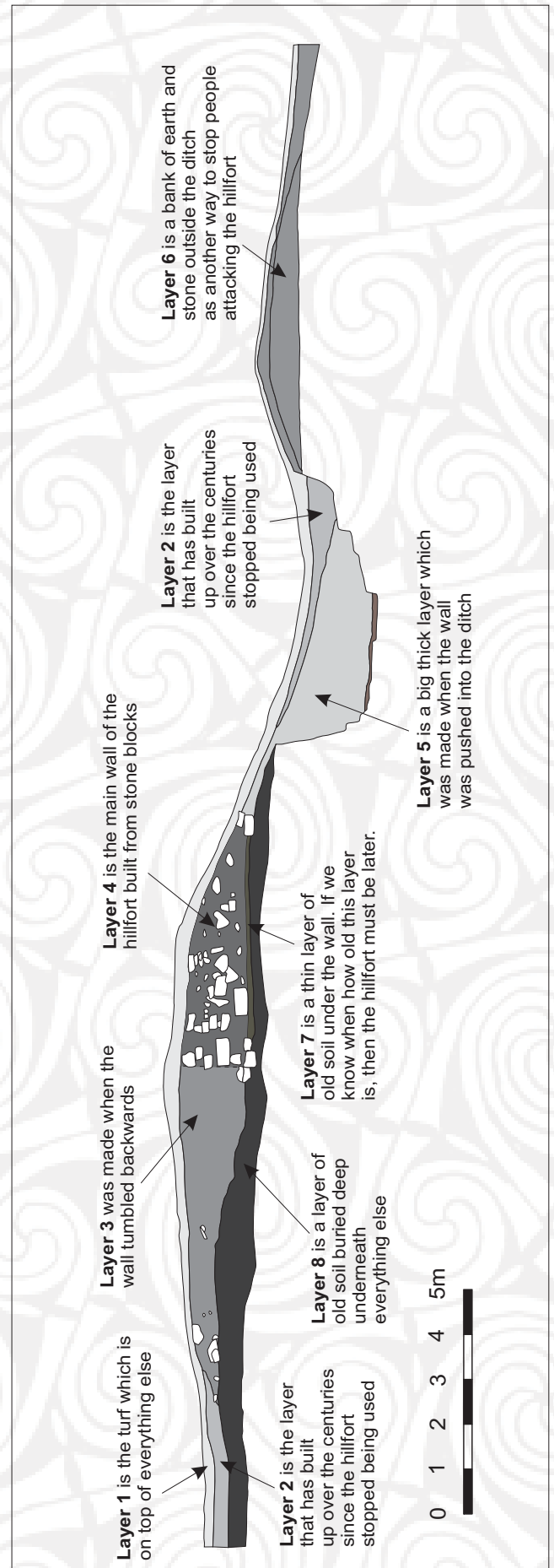
This picture to the right is very important for understanding the **HILLFORT**.

This is a slice through the wall and ditch of the **HILLFORT** which shows all the layers, just like if you took a slice of the cake you would be able to see all the layers.

We can find out how old a layer is by the things we find in it.

You can look at the other evidence sheets to find out what was in each layer, and how old each layer is.

Fill in the information you find out about each layer in the table on the next sheet.





# An Archaeological Mystery

Be an Archaeologist 4



## RECORD SHEET

LAYER	WHAT WAS FOUND IN IT?	HOW OLD IS IT?
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		

(HINT: We do not know everything about every layer. Working out the story from a little bit of evidence is a big part of being an archaeologist)