**Archaeology** – The scientific study of past human life and change through analysis of material remains that humans have left behind.

**Azurite** - A copper mineral, usually blue in colour used as part of the process to produce bronze.

**Beaker** - a prehistoric pot usually found in graves.

**Bronze** - A metal made up of copper and tin.

**Burial** - can either be inhumation or cremation.

**Cist** - a small stone-built coffin-like box or ossuary used to hold the bodies of the dead.

**Cairn** - a man-made pile (or stack) of stones.

**Cremation** - burial through burning a body.

**Earthworks –** Changes in land level due to archaeological features. Usually under the surface.

**Knapping** – shaping a piece of flint by striking it with a similar material to produce a tool or weapon.

**Hearth** – the floor of a fireplace.

**Henge** - a prehistoric monument or structure, usually consisting of a circle of stone or wooden uprights.

**Inhumation** - a burial of the dead. An alternative to a cremation.

**Hoard** - a stash of items discovered that may have been valuable to the person who deposited them.

**Mesolithic** - the Middle Stone Age, dates from 8,000 – 4,000 BC.

**Neolithic** - the New Stone Age, dates from 4,000 – 1,800 BC.

**Palaeolithic** - The Old Stone Age. This period comes before the Mesolithic.

**Stratigraphy** - layers in the soil and/or rock that build up over time. Archaeologists dig from the most recent (usually the uppermost) layers down to the earliest (which tend to be the lowest) ones.