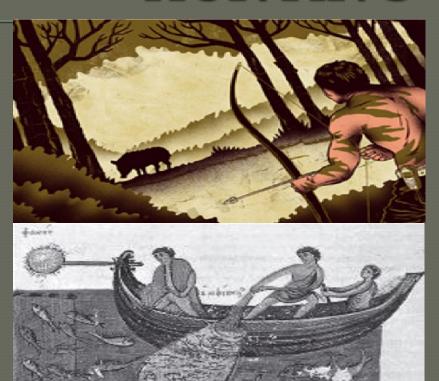


HUNTING

With the lack of agricultural practises, hunting was the main source of gathering meats. In respect to the Palaeolithic time period, the hunting of animals was very conservative. Nothing was left to waste and only what was needed was taken.



Above: Land Hunting with a common bow and arrow.
Bottom: Common depiction of sea

fishing from a canoe.

Hunting Weaponry

- The Main assortment of weapons used by ancient hunters were as follows:
- <u>Bow and Arrow</u> (Bows were usually made from the wood of willow or oak trees, whilst arrows could be made of an array of sharpened pieces of bone, stone or certain minerals such as Jade)
- Axe (Axes when they were first developed did not have a wooden handle, but near the end of the Stone Age, a wooden handle enabled more force to be applied when swinging an axe. They were usually made of bone or stone.
- <u>Knife</u> (Knives were the first weapons to come about during the Stone Age period.
 They were the precursor to the Axe as they were also made of either bone or stone.



Above: Assortment of stone, bone and

mineral arrowheads.

Bottom Left: Stone Knife

Bottom Right: Stone Axe with wooden

handle

Skinning

- As Aforementioned, Hunters left nothing to waste after successfully tracking down and killing an animal.
- Skinning was necessary for gathering the cooking meats from the body but also meant clothing and pouches could be made.
- Animal skins could be carved out for either winter clothing or summer clothing and provided good protection from forest vegetation and so forth.
- Boots, could also be made, along with reinforced soles to protect the feet. Skin pouches also meant more equipment and supplies could be carried around with ease.

Warning: Do not watch this video if you are offended or disturbed by the skinning or sight of a dead animal!

This is a small video on how to easily skin a rabbit.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nY2lFI izq8q

<u>Disclaimer:</u> I do not own the rights to this video it is property of Discovery Networks.

Cooking

- Fire was the only source of cooking food. It was however very effective as there are multiple ways of using a fire.
- Food, could be wrapped up in palm leaves or similar large leaves and placed under the hot ash surrounding the fire.
- Flat Rocks (not river rocks) could be placed on top of a fire, this would create a stove like surface for meats to cook on.



A similar representation of stone fire cooking.
Whereby the meat is layered between rocks which are heated by the fire.

Seating Arrangements

- Disclaimer: This is all speculation
- It would be generally established that the leader of a clan or group, would have closest access to the prepared food supplies.
- The leader would generally have the first choice of the best cuts of meat and first servings of berries and fruits etc. His family would supposedly sit close by and possibly get early servings too.
- If the seating is circular, as in around the fire, it would be possible that it would go from leader → family → hunters → The Rest. Going outwards from the central leader.



Modern depiction of a Stone Age meal gathering/feast.