Ireland emerges from the Ice Age and begins to warm. People return to the land for the first time and hunt mammals. They also make engravings of animals inside caves.

As it continues to get warmer, the cold dry habitat is replaced by woodland. The large mammals are replaced by forest creatures like red deer and wild cattle. They are hunted with bows and arrows.

There is evidence that hunter-gatherers lived in groups across Ireland.

Sea levels continue to rise. Britain is separated from the continental mainland and becomes an island.

Technological advances emerge, such as handmade pottery. Flint mining begins.

Elaborately decorated pottery is now being made.

The earliest copper objects and Beaker pottery date from this time.

A new type of metal - iron - comes into use.

Settled farming communities emerge. Metal tools replace flint.

The potters wheel and coinage emerge.

Try matching each Stone Age sickness with its crazy Stone Age cure!

1. toothache
   a) drill a hole in the skull
   b) climb through a hole in a boulder
   c) hollyhock flowers
   d) tattoos on the body

2. What did Stone Age people use to make fire?
   a) A lighter
   b) Stones
   c) Matches

Stone-Agers made paint by mixing powdered minerals with which liquid?

a) Mammoth pee
b) Gooseberry beer
c) Blood

How did Stone Age people find their food?

a) farming and hunting
b) online shopping
c) supermarkets

PTO for answers...
The Neolithic, or New Stone Age, in Ireland lasted from 4000BC to 2500BC. During this time our ancestors developed from being hunter-gatherers to simple farmers. The earliest Irish pottery is thought to have been made during this period. By coiling clay round and round they could build up a simple pot shape. These were then smoothed down. Some pots have been decorated by pressing stones, sticks or even fingers into the wet clay. The pot was then hardened by placing it in a hot fire. They had many uses; as well as for storing food, a pot filled with a small amount of fat and set alight was a simple but effective lamp.

Design: Louise Rice
Fermanagh County Museum, Enniskillen Castle Museum, +44 (028)66325000

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Answers to Stone Age Quiz: 1 - 1C, 2a, 3d, 4b. 2 - b. 3 - c. 4 - a.