Pre-History
The Paleolithic and Neolithic Eras
Paleo or Neo? Why?

*Croods Clip*
Pre-History

- History
  - begins with the invention of writing, about 5,000 years ago
  - Humans lived long before the invention of writing
    - How do we know this?
    - artifacts and fossils
Pre-History

- Pre = before
- Pre-History = before writing
- also known as the Stone Age because stone tools were used
- divided into different time periods
  - Paleolithic (Old Stone Age)
  - Neolithic (New Stone Age)
The Paleolithic Era

- When?
  - 2 million B.C. to 10,000 B.C.
  - It was during this time that early humans developed
  - They were hunter gatherers
  - They wandered around (nomadic) in small groups of no more than 60
Neolithic Age

- The New Stone Age began when people started to farm or produce their own food
- Called The Agricultural Revolution
- Because they were farming an area of land, they no longer needed to move around in search of food, they started permanent settlements and stopped being nomadic
Neolithic ends

- The Neolithic era began about 10,000 B.C. and ended about 3,000 B.C.
- It ended when people began to make tools out of metals instead of stone.
- Bronze Age etc.
Food

- Paleolithic people
  - obtained food by hunting and gathering plants
  - They did not have a stable food supply

- Neolithic people
  - Started farming (agriculture) by planting seeds from harvested plants
  - They tamed (domesticate) animals including sheep, goats, and cattle which provided meat, milk, and provided for heavy labor.
Houses?

- Paleolithic
  - Nomads who traveled around, they used tents and/or caves
- Neolithic
  - Built mud brick houses, sometimes using stone and wood to strengthen the wall
Communities

- Paleolithic
  - Small groups of no more than perhaps 20 to 60 people
- Neolithic
  - Agriculture helped people to settle near their farms and then cities/villages sprang up. Towns became larger
Early Settlements

Many early settlements were located in the Fertile Crescent located in what we call the Middle East (Iraq, Iran, etc). Three main towns were Jericho, Jarmo, and Catal Hayuk.