Year 3/4 Curriculum Overview
History

Year Groups	Cycle	Unit List	DE Lesson found in:
Years 3 & 4	A	1. The Stone Age	Year 3
		2. Ancient Egypt	Year 3
		3. The Legacy of Ancient Greece	Year 4
	B	1. Bronze Age to Iron Age	Year 3
		2. The Roman Empire in Britain	Year 4
		3. Anglo-Saxon Britain	Year 4

Please note, teachers may wish to use the lesson editing tools that are available on the Developing Experts platform. Lesson presentations can be merged, and slides can be edited, added or removed to ensure your lessons flow.

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Cycle A		
Unit	**Year Group**	**Rationale**
The Stone Age	Year 3	All children will be able to access this unit, having been taught the necessary prior knowledge in Year 1/2. Children will learn about life in prehistoric Britain from the Palaeolithic to the Neolithic periods. They will explore how human lifestyles evolved in response to changing environments, including developments in tools, diet, homes, and monuments, and learn how archaeologists use evidence to reconstruct life before written records.
Ancient Egypt	Year 3	Children will build on learning from The Stone Age to understand how the first great civilisations began. They will examine Egypt's desert environment and the Nile's annual flooding, learning how this cycle supported farming. Children will also investigate how we know about Ancient Egypt through archaeology and hieroglyphics. The unit further explores Ancient Egyptian beliefs, focusing on Pharaohs, the afterlife, and mummification, before examining key discoveries such as Tutankhamun's tomb.
The Legacy of Ancient Greece	Year 4	DE suggests that this unit is taught in the same cycle as Ancient Egypt. This allows children to develop their understanding of the legacy of ancient civilisations, exploring how the modern world has been shaped by Ancient Greece and its contributions to democracy, theatre, mythology and sport through the Olympic Games.

Cycle B		
Unit	**Year Group**	**Rationale**
Bronze Age to Iron Age	Year 3	DE suggests teaching Bronze Age to Iron Age (Year 3) and The Roman Empire in Britain (Year 4) in the same cycle. This supports children in understanding the establishment of Celtic life in Britain, so that the impact of the Roman invasion can be fully understood. For children who are beginning their learning in Cycle B, DE recommends they explore the Stone Age briefly before beginning the Bronze Age to Iron Age unit, focusing on the tools that people used and the role of archaeologists in uncovering these artefacts. This can be done by using the lesson editing tools to add information into the starter activity in Lesson 1 from the following lessons in The Stone Age unit: • *Lesson 1 – Who lived during the Stone Age and how do we know? (archaeologists and artefacts)* • *Lesson 2 – What did prehistoric people eat? (tools)* • *Lesson 3 – Did farming make a big difference to prehistoric life? (tools)*
The Roman Empire in Britain	Year 4	Children will build on learning from their Iron Age lessons to explore how the Roman Empire conquered much of Europe, including Britain, and the impact this had on Celtic life. They will explore Roman settlements and entertainment and consider the legacy that Roman occupation has left in the modern world. References to Ancient Greece and Ancient Egypt are made within the unit, which can be adapted using the lesson editing tools.
Anglo Saxon Britain	Year 4	This unit is accessible for all children as it builds on learning from The Roman Empire in Britain unit. Children are introduced to the Anglo-Saxons, exploring how migration, settlement, and social structures shaped life after the Romans left.

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