

Do you 'dig' Archaeology? Day

Summer
Staycation
Club!



Neolithic flint knife, Wortley



Prehistoric polished stone
axe, Wortley

6+

Soap Knapping

In the Stone Age, people made tools out of stone, from simple scrapers to arrowheads, axes and knives. Often they would use flint for these tools as it flakes easily.

Why not have a go at making your own stone age tool using soap?



You will need:

- A bar of soap (Pears works especially well)
- A blunt knife (dinner knife)
- Clay tools (optional)



Start with a bar of soap.



Begin by cutting diagonally to create the shape. Always cut away from you and try to flake off thin layers at a time as this gives you better control of your shape.



Carry on shaping your soap carefully. If you are making an axe the wide side will be the "blade" if you are making a knife or arrow head it will be the pointy side. This is where you need a thin edge.



Now shape the other side of your shape.



Carry on carving until you are happy with your shape.

Watch a film
to see an example of
soap knapping here