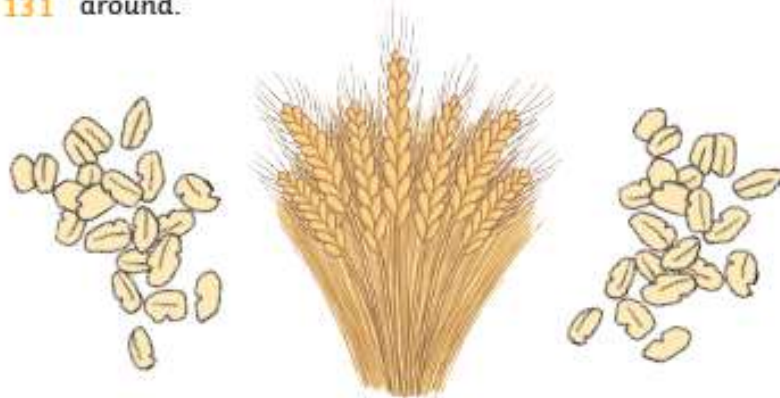


## Diary of an Iron Age Farmer

9 Today has been just another day tending to the  
18 livestock and growing the crops on the farm. Our  
27 community is growing and more food is needed if  
37 we are to survive the winter. Barda and I planted  
45 more crops in the field – making a rectangular  
53 pattern with the seeds to make harvest easier...  
64 Well, as easy as it can be on such sloped terrain.

72 I watched from afar as Alanus cleared more  
83 woodland. As sad as it is to cut down the trees,  
93 we simply need more space for crops to feed the  
102 people. Spelt, wheat, rye, barley and oats can be  
111 planted to last us through the long winter. With  
121 milk from the cows and meat from the sheep and  
130 pigs, we should just about have enough to go  
131 around.



## Quick Questions



1. Find and copy a phrase from the first paragraph of the text which means 'looking after'

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2. Who cleared the trees from the woodland?

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3. Why do you think the farmer is concerned about not having enough crops to last the winter?

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4. How is this Iron Age farmer similar to a modern-day farmer?

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## Answers



1. Find and copy a phrase from the first paragraph of the text which means 'looking after'

**Accept: tending to**



2. Who cleared the trees from the woodland?

**Accept: Alanus**



3. Why do you think the farmer is concerned about not having enough crops to last the winter?

**Accept answers which discuss that no more crops would be able to be grown during winter if they ran out. This would mean that the community might starve.**



4. How is this Iron Age farmer similar to a modern-day farmer?

**Accept any reasonable similarity between the two farmers, such as: 'The Iron Age farmer grows crops and milks cows, which modern-day farmers still do.'**



There was a pole in the centre of the round house which supported other poles that spread out to form the roof. The roof was thatched with grass or straw. The door of the roundhouse was decorated with carvings and plants or herbs that would keep evil spirits away.

The roundhouse was one large room and more than one family could stay there. A wealthy family might have more than one roundhouse.

The roundhouse was lit and heated by a fire built into a clay pot in the centre of the floor. The fire burned all the time. A metal (bronze or iron) cauldron would hang above the fire for cooking food. Food that had been preserved in salt would hang from the roof. There were no windows in a roundhouse.

Around the walls of the roundhouse were benches covered with animal skins, which would have been used for sleeping on. Animal skins covered

the floor. Other furniture, such as low tables or chests, would have been made out of wood. The Celts would have carved decorations on their furniture.

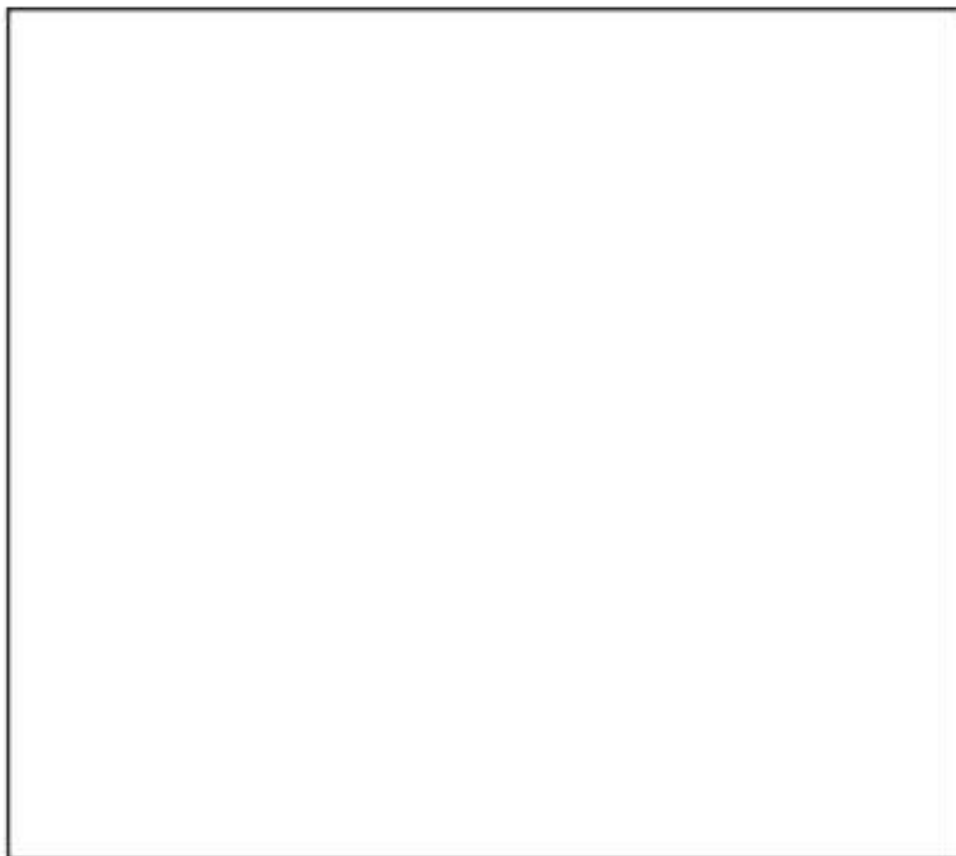
There might have been a loom in the roundhouse for weaving. The Celts wove their clothes; they were usually brightly coloured and patterned.



**Now draw a Celtic roundhouse.**

Remember to include:

- a thatched pointed roof;
- wattle and daub walls;
- herbs or plants hanging at the door;
- a door with Celtic carvings on it.

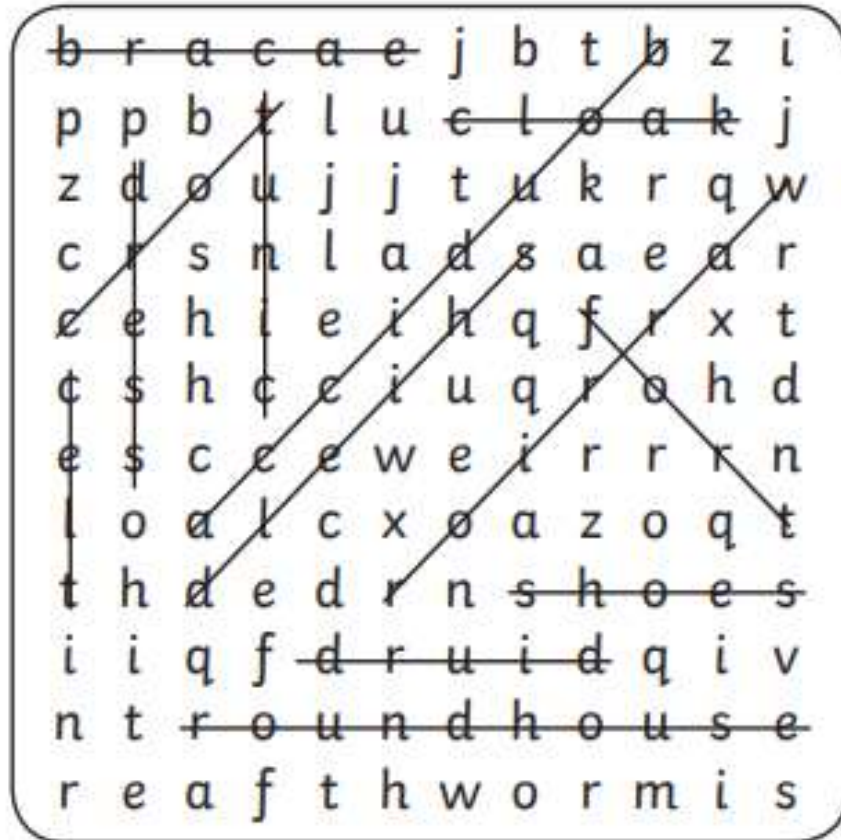


# The Celts

b r a c a e j b t b z i  
p p b t l u c l o a k j  
z d o u j j t u k r q w  
c r s n l a d s a e a r  
c e h i e i h q f r x t  
c s h c c i u q r o h d  
e s c c e w e i r r r n  
l o a l c x o a z o q t  
t h d e d r n s h o e s  
i i q f d r u i d q i v  
n t r o u n d h o u s e  
r e a f t h w o r m i s

roundhouse	shoes	
bracae	cloak	celt
shield	torc	tunic
boudicca	warrior	dress
druid	fort	

# The Celts Answers



- |            |         |       |
|------------|---------|-------|
| roundhouse | shoes   | celt  |
| braciae    | cloak   | tunic |
| shield     | torc    | dress |
| boudicca   | warrior |       |
| druid      | fort    |       |