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50,000-year-old piece of string found – 17th April, 2020

Level 0

Archaeologists found the world's oldest piece of string. It is 50,000 years old. It shows that early humans (called Neanderthals) were very intelligent. Neanderthals all died 35,000 years ago. The string shows they understood how to make rope. They also made clothes, bags and other things. They were as intelligent as we are.

The string is very small. It shows how people lived 50,000 years ago. A researcher said she learned many things from the string. The Neanderthals made the string from different fibres. They also knew about plants and trees. They had the intelligence, "to use different parts of the environment".

Level 1

Archaeologists found the world's oldest piece of string. They are happy because the string is about 50,000 years old. The string also shows that early humans called Neanderthals were very intelligent. Neanderthals became extinct 35,000 years ago, but the string shows they understood plants and textiles. The Neanderthals may have used the string to make clothes, bags, rope, mats and other things. They were probably as intelligent as humans today.

The string is very small but it shows how people lived 50,000 years ago. A researcher said she could learn many things from the string. It had three different fibres in it. Nature does not make this naturally. The Neanderthals could make things like rope from different fibres. They also knew about plants and trees. The researcher said the Neanderthals had the intelligence, "to use different parts of the environment".

Level 2

Archaeologists have found the world's oldest piece of string. They are very happy about this. One reason is the string is around 50,000 years old. The second reason is the string shows that an early species of humans called Neanderthals were more intelligent than we thought. Neanderthals became extinct about 35,000 years ago but the string shows they had a good understanding of plants and textiles. The Neanderthals may have used the string to make clothes, bags, rope, mats and other things. They were probably as intelligent as modern humans.

The piece of string is tiny but it shows a lot about how people lived 50,000 years ago. A researcher said: "We were able to uncover details about the fibres and we observed that they're different, twisted fibres. It is not possible to find these kinds of fibres in nature." She added that in her opinion, the Neanderthals had the ability to make rope. She also said they knew many things about trees. They also knew about vegetables, plants and trees. The researcher said the Neanderthals had the intelligence, "to use different parts of the environment".

Level 3

Archeologists have discovered the oldest piece of string ever found. The archaeologists are very happy about their find. The first reason they are happy is that the string they found is around 50,000 years old. The second reason is that the string shows that Neanderthals were more intelligent than we previously thought they were. Neanderthals were an early species of humans that became extinct about 35,000 years ago. The string shows that Neanderthals had a good understanding of plants and textiles. The archaeologists say Neanderthals may have used the string to make clothes, bags, rope, mats and other things. This means they were probably as intelligent as modern humans.

The piece of string that the archaeologists found was tiny but it reveals a lot about how people lived 50,000 years ago. Dr Marie-Helene Moncel, director of research at the National Museum of Natural History in Paris, said: "We were able to uncover details about the fibres and we observed that they're different, twisted fibres. It is not possible to find these kinds of fibres in nature." She added: "In my opinion, different things can be related to this discovery. Obviously, the ability of Neanderthals to make cord, but also their huge knowledge about trees. They knew about vegetation, plants and trees, and had the intelligence to use different parts of the environment."