



Mammoth hunters



THE DIFFICULT LIFE OF A PREHISTORIC HUNTER

ach day was a struggle for survival for the prehistoric hunter. The climate was extremely cold and much of the land they roamed was covered with glaciers. They spent their entire lives wandering from place to place seeking food. They lived along with their wives and children in provisional dwellings in the open country in close proximity to lakes and rivers which were often a draw for herds of wild animals.





The loss of fire amounted to certain death. Fire protected prehistoric people from cold, the dark, fierce beasts and was also important for preparing more tasty meals than mere raw meat. They therefore maintained a watch in order to make sure it did not go out. They learned how to light a fire by striking two pieces of flint against one another or by means of a miniature bow. The spinning of a dry branch along a bowstring and its rapid rubbing along a piece of tree bark created a small flame in between the stick and the bark.





MANUAL FOR A PREHISTORIC HUNTER: **HOW TO MAKE** A SPEAR

Produced in prehistoric times







3.



Before men set off on a hunt they performed a ritual involving hunting dances which were supposed to bring them luck. Those who were not gifted dancers, could try out painting scenes of successful hunts on the cave walls.

a painting are ideal for MAMMOTH HUNTING

MAMMOTH TUSK

Dogs

Dogs became man's best friend as far back as prehistoric times. Prehistoric people tamed them from wild wolves, creating a partnership between them. Dogs helped them hunt prey and received a juicy steak or a bone or two as a reward.

Teamwork. or let's get him!

Young boys first learned how to catch smaller rodents in traps before being allowed to set off on dangerous hunting expeditions for ferocious mammoths, cave lions, saber-toothed tigers or bears. These required a truly careful approach. They were aware that they were hunters, but could easily become the prey. In comparison with the huge tusks of the mammoths, the spears of the hunters looked like tiny toothpicks which would only be of use to scratch a mammoth behind the ear. Prehistoric people were well aware that they could not bring down one of these huge animals on their own. They had to work together and cooperate as a team. The first and most important step was to get close enough to the mammoth. They would sneak up on it quietly, startle it and drive it toward a ravine.

GREAT EXPEDITION FOR A MAMMOTH

Participants are asked to obtain in time or make themselves: a flint, a spear with a smooth or serrated edge, a bow and arrows, an ax, a club, a harpoon (if we can't find a mammoth, we can at least hunt for fish).







ORGANIZER:

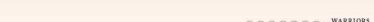














Archery & Falconing



ARCHERY & FALCONING

he arrival of elegant light cavalry made up of bowmen amounted to the end of knights or heavy cavalry. The quick and thin arrows could penetrate the armour of even the sturdiest protected knights. With their inconspicuous long-range archery, bowmen could defeat even a much larger army than they had themselves. Because they were not weighed down by bulky iron armour, the bowmen were also more agile in battle up close on the ground.

Try a crossbow out!

In contrast to a regular bow, a crossbow had certain advantages: not that the weapon shot its itself, but it was not as tiring due to its technology. In contrast to the drawing of the bowstring by hand, one could comfortably draw the crossbow with one's foot or with a lever. It was also easier to aim. It also included at times a supply of arrows, so one could shoot one after another!

The even trained in Sunday

The English King Edward III did not leave anything to chance. He commanded that all of his men train archery for two hours every Sunday. He also forbid all useless sports, such as football, which he viewed as having no contribution to battle. Local priests were responsible for observing these regulations and this, at least according to Edward, prevented them from sleeping all day behind their monastery walls.

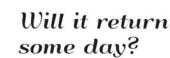


Falconing hunters

Falconers accompanied their lords into battle and even on war campaigns. They were extremely important men who often sat at the table immediately next to the King. They trained birds of prey who could at any time in the outdoor terrain, but most often in hunts in the royal game parks full of pheasants, partridges, hares and rabbits, help provide the meat portion of the dinner table for an entire castle, along with warm fur for the winter.

Robin Hood

It is said that no one could shoot better than the outlaw Robin Hood. At this time the English nobility was growing rich at the expense of the poor and Robin was not at all happy about it. He hid in Sherwood Forest and along with his band of Merry Men began to take from the rich and give back to the poor. He even participated in a celebrated archery competition at one point disguised. He easily won the competition by remarkably splitting in half the arrow of his opponent with his own arrow. According to legend, he is buried where his final arrow fell.



It was not easy to train birds of pre to freely "surrender" their prey to their owners. The training process was therefore viewed as high art. Each bird of prey had its own distinct personality and the falconer had to obtain their confidence from an early age. As soon as the falconer released the bird, it was his responsibility as to whether it flew off or returned back. The cap covering the eyes of the bird would serve to calm it; the bells on its leg enabled the falconer to find it even in thick forested terrain.

DO YOU WANT TO SHOOT LIKE ROBIN HOOD? OR HOW TO HIT A TARGET?



1.Stand with your legs slightly apart facing the target.



it in the direction of the

Place the notched end of the arrow in the middle of the bowstring. The front of the arrow should be resting on the edge of your palm which is holding the bow as if you were leading



I'm not going

anywhere without

my eagle!

Hold the arrow in the bowstring with three fingers – index finger above the arrow, middle and ring fingers below the arrow.



With one fluid movement of the bow, pull the bowstring back to your chin and aim slightly above the centre of the target.



Can you do it too?

He must

have flown off

somewhere.

5.Release the arrow!

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WARRIORS -

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WARRIDRS

Written by Jana Sedláčková

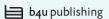
Illustrated by

Kateřina Hikadová • Ondřej Dolejší • Tomáš Pernický

A RICHLY ILLUSTRATED HISTORY OF WARRIORS - FROM PREHISTORIC TIMES TO THE PRESENT.

Ighting and warriors have always been part of human life, from prehistory to the present, be it in the form of wars of all kinds or simple playground brawls. How has war been waged at various stages of history, and with what? What skills have warriors had to master, and which qualities apart from courage, gallantry and strength have been required of them? In the pages of this book, which really is armed to the teeth, you'll find out all you need to know about the lives of professional fighters, brawlers, soldiers, mercenaries and even 'ordinary' mammoth hunters.





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