



An archaeologist's work includes carefully removing artifacts from a site and recording their exact location. This site is in Israel.

kills. To cut the meat, they used stone choppers and knives, which they made by hitting two stones against each other.

About 1.9 million years ago *Homo erectus* also could be found in Africa. *Homo erectus* had greater brainpower than *Homo habilis*. Even so, *Homo erectus* probably could not make more than a few different sounds.

These early Africans were the first to tame fire. This action gave them a way to protect themselves against lions and other wild animals. It also allowed them to live in colder climates because they could use fire to keep themselves warm.

Like earlier hominids, *Homo erectus* survived by hunting and gathering. In time, hunting and gathering led **bands**, or small groups, of these hominids across Africa's Sahara and into Asia. Later, bands appeared throughout much of Asia and in Europe as well.

For more than 1.5 million years, *Homo erectus* flourished in Africa, Asia, and Europe. Life changed little for *Homo erectus*—except in Africa. On this continent the first modern humans began to appear by 200,000 years ago. These newcomers, *Homo sapiens*, would greatly affect the ways of life of Africa's *Homo erectus*.

REVIEW How did controlling fire help *Homo erectus*?

LESSON 1 REVIEW

Check Understanding

- 1 **Remember the Facts** According to experts, which came first, *Homo sapiens*, *Homo habilis*, or *Homo erectus*?
- 2 **Recall the Main Idea** How have experts learned what they know about human ancestors?

Think Critically

- 3 **Think More About It** Many people debate about the ways in which early people lived. Why do you think this is so?
- 4 **Past to Present** Fire was important to early humans for protection and warmth. Why is fire important today?



Show What You Know
Diary Activity Imagine that you are a member of Don Johanson's excavation

team on the day of Lucy's discovery. Write a diary entry describing the event. Be sure to explain why everyone is so excited about the discovery. Exchange diary entries with a classmate and compare what the two of you have written.