

Year 4 – History - Terms 1: Romans

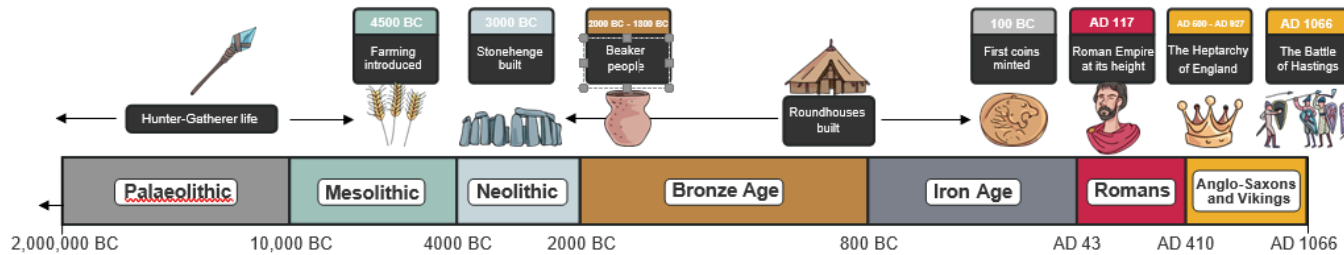


What should I already know?

- Have placed a number of events, objects, themes and people from topics I have studied on a timeline
- Have an understanding of some people who were historically important.

Scientific Skills I will develop:

- To show understanding of what things were like before and after the Roman Empire at local and national levels.
- To give some reasons for and results of the Roman Empire.
- To describe similarities and differences in society, culture and religion in Britain at local and national levels.



The growth of the Roman Empire

Under the rule of Emperor Augustus, the Roman Empire had grown and its reach was maintained by Emperor Augustus' new Imperial Army – an army so well trained and powerful that barely anyone could stand in their way. Augustus and other Roman leaders had eyed Britannia as a way to expand the Empire over the last half a century, but it wasn't that easy. There had been multiple attempts to invade, but they failed. It took until the year **43 CE** for the Romans to be successful in their quest, and under the rule of **Emperor Claudius**, they invaded and the **Britons (Celts)** tried to fight back, but were beaten by the heavily armoured and organised soldiers in the **Roman legions**. Within four years, **Rome controlled large regions of Britannia**.

The Anglo-Saxon Heptarchy

Over many years, the Romans fought to take control of the **Italian region**. They used three methods of conquest to bring together the different peoples under the banner of Rome:

- Annexation
- Colonisation
- Military Alliance

The end of the Roman Republic eventually came in 31 BCE when the **Battle of Actium** (known as '**the last war of the Roman Republic**') was fought between **Octavia, Agrippa and Marc Anthony & Cleopatra**. Octavian and his general, Agrippa, triumphed in battle and as a result Octavian took control of all of Rome's land and named himself **Emperor Augustus**, the **first emperor of the Roman Empire**.



Queen Boudicca and her revolt!



Boudicca was a **Celtic queen** who fought against the Romans when they came to take her land. Her army **destroyed the Roman cities of Colchester, St Albans and London** by burning them to the ground one by one. On her mission across England, she eventually met a Roman legion somewhere in the middle of the country, where she was sadly defeated and Roman reports claim **80,000** of her fighters were killed in battle. Today, she is remembered for her bravery and **fight for freedom**.

The fall of the Roman Empire

Civil wars and chaos erupted across the Roman Empire during the **3rd century**. This crisis saw around **20 emperors rise and fall in just 50 years!** Unfortunately, the problems facing the empire were not only with those trying to rule it. Now, more than ever, forces outside the empire were beginning to make things difficult for the Romans. With all this strain, the Roman Empire started to fall apart, and a man named **Constantine** fought his way to become the single emperor of Rome again – **uniting all Roman lands under him**. He even moved the capital from Rome to a city he named after himself – **Constantinople**. After Constantine's death, chaos and struggle continued and eventually, the empire would split in half forevermore.

Curriculum Key Question:
Where have we come from?

Topic: How rotten were the Romans?

Key Vocabulary (including definition: (see parts of digestive system in previous box).

Celts: People living in Britain at the time of the Roman invasion.

Emperor: The ruler of an empire.

Roman Empire: The name used for the land that was controlled by the Romans, including parts of Europe, Middle East and North Africa.

Invade: To enter as an enemy, by force, in order to conquer.

Legion: One unit of the Roman army; had 4,000-6,000 soldiers in and led by a centurion.

Conquer: To get or overcome by force.

Mosaic: One picture made up of thousands of small tiles

