

Meet the Romans



The **ROMANS** invaded **BRITAIN** in 43AD.

Britain had a lot of things the Romans wanted, such as **metal** and **wool**. People in the south of Britain already **TRADED** (bought and sold things) with the Romans, but the Romans wanted Britain to become part of the empire, so they could take what they wanted without having to pay.

Do you think people in Britain were happy about the **Roman invasion**?

The Roman invasion meant that a lot of things changed in Britain.

Food, drinks, objects and **ideas** were brought into Britain from across the Roman Empire.

There were new clothes, a new religion and people who came from other parts of the Roman Empire, such as **north Africa** and **Italy**.

In **BEDFORDSHIRE** and **CAMBRIDGESHIRE**, we have found:

AMPHORA from SPAIN



This big pot was used to store **olive oil**.

ROMAN COINS



Coins made it easy to **buy** and **sell** things all over the Roman Empire.

COPPER WEIGHT



Weights were used to work out **how much** something would cost.

SAMIAN WARE from FRANCE



This **pottery** cost a lot of money. If you owned this pot, your friends would be very impressed!



Design your own Roman coin



Coins were very important objects for the Romans.

As well as being **money**, they were an important way for the **Emperor** (ruler of Rome) to show they were in charge. Coins showed the name and face of the emperor, usually wearing a laurel wreath (a crown made from leaves).

Without pictures or paintings, most people in the Roman Empire, especially in Britain, would have only known what the emperor looked like by seeing them on a coin!

ACTIVITY: On one side of your coin and in the centre draw a picture of **yourself** wearing a laurel wreath. Make sure to show that you are a very important person!

Then write your **name** in capital letters around the edge. You can make your name sound Roman by changing the ending: Roman names often ended in *us*, *rius*, *a*, or *ria*.

On the other side of your coin, draw something that **represents you!** This could be your favourite animal, or something that you enjoy or are proud of.

Roman or not? Card game

The Romans left Britain in 410AD. This means they were in charge for almost **400 years** – a really long time!

During that time, they brought over lots of different **objects** and **foods** from all over the Roman Empire. This includes food like grapes, which we still eat today.

Let's find out what else the Romans brought to Britain. How many of these things do you have in your house?



ACTIVITY: Look at the **objects** on the front of the cards.

Make sure you don't look at the back of the cards!

Sort them into 2 piles: **Roman** and **Not Roman**.

Once you have made your final decision you can turn the cards over and see if you were right.

