

Roman Britain Knowledge Organiser

Vocabulary

empire - lots of different countries ruled over by one leader

emperor - the ruler of an empire

invade - when an army takes over another country by force

tribe - a group of people with the same leader and beliefs and ways of living

barbarians - the name that the Romans gave to people who did not follow the Roman way of life in Britain

centurion - the commander of a century (80 soldiers and 20 slaves) in the Roman army

conquer - when one country takes over the control of another country by force

Latin - an 'ancient language' that was used throughout the Roman Empire for hundreds of years

chronology - events in time order

archaeologist - somebody who looks at ancient sites and objects to learn about the past

Who were the Romans?

The Romans were a civilisation from Rome in what is now called Italy. They had emperors who were very powerful and wanted to expand their empire to gain wealth. They invaded many other countries.

Why did the Romans invade Britain?

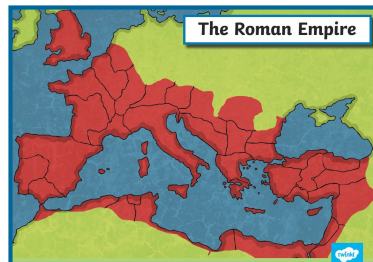
The Romans wanted their empire to be as big and powerful as possible. They wanted natural resources, such as precious metals, slaves and farmland. Britain had lots of materials including iron, lead, copper, silver, and gold that the Romans needed to support their growing empire and army.

Hadrian's Wall

Emperor Hadrian came to Britain in 122AD. He wanted to protect the Roman Empire from the barbarians, who lived in the North of Britain, so he ordered the construction of a wall.



The Roman Empire



The Roman Army

The Roman army was huge. It was divided up into groups called 'legions'. Each legion had between 4,000 and 6,000 soldiers. A legion was further divided into groups of 80 men called 'centuries'. Roman soldiers were very well trained. The legionaries were the strongest and best soldiers in the army.



Who was Boudicca?

Boudicca was the queen of the British Celtic Iceni tribe, who led an army against the Romans in 60/61 AD. The Roman emperor Claudius took the land of the Iceni tribe away from her people after her husband, King Prasutagus, died. She formed an army to take back their land. She conquered three cities, before the Romans defeated her. There is a statue to commemorate her in central London.



Who were the Celts?

The Celts were a number of tribes from Western and Central Europe including Britain and Ireland. They lived in Britain from roughly 750 BC to 43 AD. This was during the end of the Bronze Age and through the Iron Age until the Roman invasion of Britain, when the Romans started to take their land.

753 BC

The building of Rome begins

133 BC

The Roman Empire spread across Europe and the top of Africa

55 BC

Julius Caesar tries and fails to invade Britain

54 BC

Julius Caesar tries and fails to invade Britain again

43 AD

Emperor Claudius successfully invades Britain

60-61 AD

Boudicca leads a rebellion against the Romans

122 AD

The Romans start to build Hadrian's Wall

410 AD

The Romans leave Britain