



KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER

HISTORY: ROMANS

Y4 AUTUMN TERM

TIMELINE OF KEY EVENTS:	
DATE	WHAT HAPPENED
753 BC	The city of Rome is founded
509 BC	Rome become a republic as the last king is overthrown and Rome is now ruled by elected officials called senators
73 BC	Spartacus the gladiator leads the slaves in an uprising
45 BC	Julius Cesar becomes the first dictator of Rome – this is the end of the Roman Republic
44 BC	Julius Cesar is assassinated
27 BC	The Roman Empire begins with Caesar Augustus as the first Roman Emperor
64 AD	Much of Rome burns
80 AD	The Colosseum is built which can seat 50,000 spectators
121 AD	Hadrian's wall is built
306 AD	Constantine becomes Emperor and eventually converts to Christianity
380 AD	Christianity is declared as the sole religion of the Roman Empire
395 AD	Rome splits into two empires

KEY VOCABULARY:	
WORDS	MEANING
Cavalry	Roman soldiers on horseback
Celts	Iron Age people
Boudicca	Queen of the Iceni tribe
Centurion	the army leader of a group of soldiers
Forum	the central area of the Roman town
Gladiator	a person trained to fight purely as a means for Roman entertainment
Infantry	Roman foot soldiers
Insula	a stone building containing flats lived in by the poor
Legacy	something left behind that helps us remember someone or something
Legion	a large group of Roman soldiers, like an army
Roman villa	a large stone house owned by the more wealthy
Stadium	a place of entertainment in a Roman town, often including a circus.

KEY KNOWLEDGE:
QUESTION 1: Why did the Romans invade and settle in Britain?
ANSWER In 55 BC, the Roman General Julius Cesar led his army across the sea from Gaul to Britain. He wanted to make Britain part of Rome's empire. He was unsuccessful and returned in 54 BC but lost again. In AD 43 Claudius (emperor) invaded with four legions and conquered Southern Britain.
QUESTION 2: Did the British fight back?
ANSWER Some Celts made friends with the Romans in return for keeping their kingdom. They kept Roman laws and paid tax. Other British leaders fought the Romans. The best British leader was Carctacus but he was beaten in AD 51 and taken as a prisoner.



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QUESTION 3: What was the quality of life like for people in Roman Britain?

ANSWER

When the Romans came to Britain they brought their way of life with them. Over time, the people of Britain and Romans mixed and Britons took on the Roman lifestyle. They built houses, shops, meeting spaces, temples and Bath houses.

QUESTION 4: What were the achievements of Roman Britain?

ANSWER

The Romans were good at building roads and bridges. They built arches into big buildings and aqueducts to supply towns with water. They ensured towns were clean and reduced chances of disease. They also introduced Latin to Britain and increased Literacy.

KEY PEOPLE:

NAME	WHAT THEY DID
Julius Cesar	Invaded Britain in both 55 and 54 BC
Coligula	Invaded Britain in AD 40
Claudius	Successfully invaded Britain (South) in AD 43
Queen Boudicca	Fought back against the Romans in AD 60
Caratacus	Fought the Romans but was beaten in AD 52 and imprisoned

SUGGESTED WEBSITES TO FIND OUT MORE:

www.bbc.co.uk/guides/29j4kqt

www.earlybritishkingdoms.com/kids/romans.html