

Great Meols Primary School - History

Topic: Romans

Year 4

Strand: British History



Location

At its most powerful, the Roman Empire spread across Europe, parts of North Africa and the Middle East. The Romans landed their army in Kent, on the south coast of England, hoping to take over more land. They had many battles with tribes but came to control most of Britain and Wales. The Romans travelled as far as Scotland but couldn't keep control so they built a wall to keep the tribes out. This wall is one of the most famous defences in history: Hadrian's Wall. Following the successful conquest of much of Britain, the Romans stayed until AD 410.



Settlements

Romans brought significant changes to Britain. They built over 10,000 miles of roads and built houses, forts and temples from stone rather than wood. The Romans also brought bathhouses, central heating and sanitation. They influenced the: written and spoken language; measurement system; way of lives; cities; buildings (built out of bricks and stone); technology; religion (e.g. Christianity)
In AD 44, The Romans captured Colchester. It is the first fortress in Roman Britain and made the capital city in AD 49.



Conflict

Its army was one of the most organised and skillful ever created. In AD 61, Queen Boudica led a rebellion against the Romans. Her army was finally defeated by a skillful and well-trained group of 1200 Roman soldiers who defeated almost 80,000 men.



Artefacts

The remains of the forts built on Hadrian's Wall can still be seen today. The Roman amphitheatre at Chester was the largest in Britain. **Chester was an important city for the Ancient Romans**, and the sandstone walls are among the finest remaining Roman defences in England



Vocabulary:

Historical vocabulary:

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| empire | Many countries that are ruled by one leader |
| AD | Used to show the years after Jesus was born |
| conquer | Take control of another land |
| invasion | When a foreign army enters a country by force |
| prosperous | wealthy |
| territory | Land controlled by a ruler |
| emperor | Ruler of an empire |

Topic related vocabulary:

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| amphitheatre | A stadium where Romans went to watch animals and people fighting |
| gladiator | A person trained to fight other gladiators or animals in amphitheatres |
| Latin | The language spoken and written by the Romans |
| mosaic | A pattern made from coloured pieces of stones and pottery |
| sanitation | Keeping places clean with a sewage system and clean water supply |



753 BC: Rome is founded by Romulus according to legend

27 BC: Augustus becomes the first Roman Emperor

AD 50: London is founded

AD 312: Christianity becomes official religion of Roman empire

55BC: Julius Caesar attempts first invasion of Britain

AD 43: Roman invasion of Britain

c. AD 70: Construction of Roman Chester (Deva Victrix) begins

AD 410: Last Romans leave Britain