

The Roman Legacy

Find out about one way the Romans changed Britain.

You can choose one of the four parts included here, or research something else.

Roman baths: p2-10

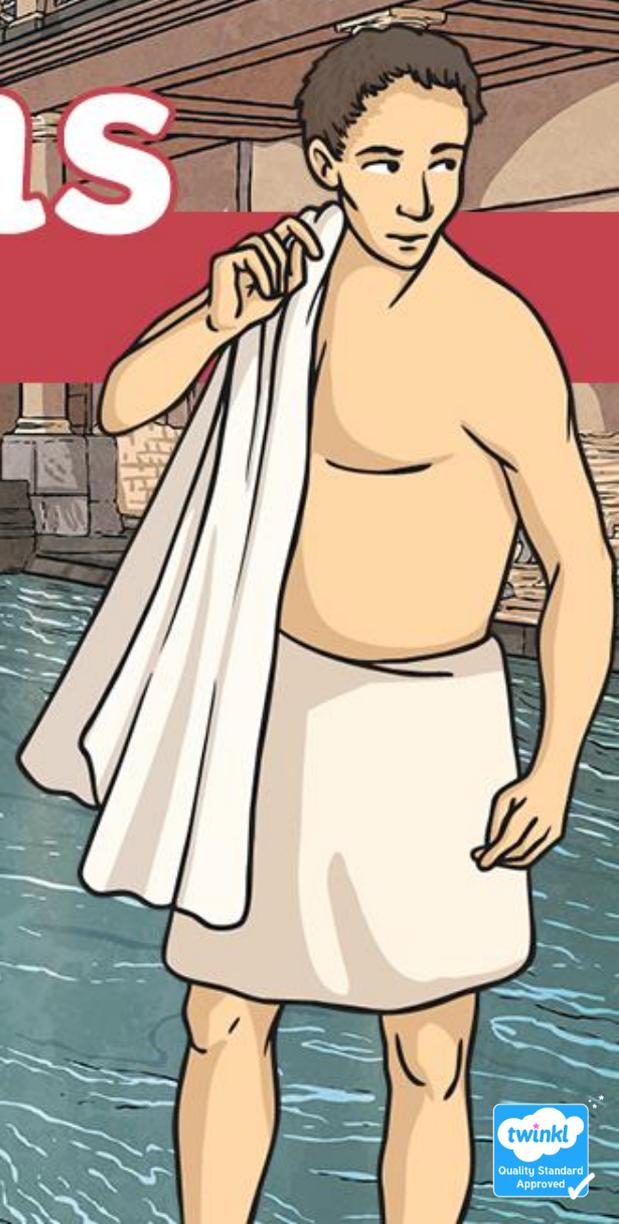
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Romans

Roman Baths



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Roman Baths



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The Romans loved to keep clean and bathing was a sociable experience that the Roman people enjoyed sharing together.

The Romans also built their baths in the countries they conquered and re-established under Roman rule. There are many fine examples of Roman bathhouses in Britain.

This picture shows the Roman baths at Bath, Somerset.

Roman Baths

The Romans are well known for their innovative engineering and design skills and building a bathhouse really showcased their talents!

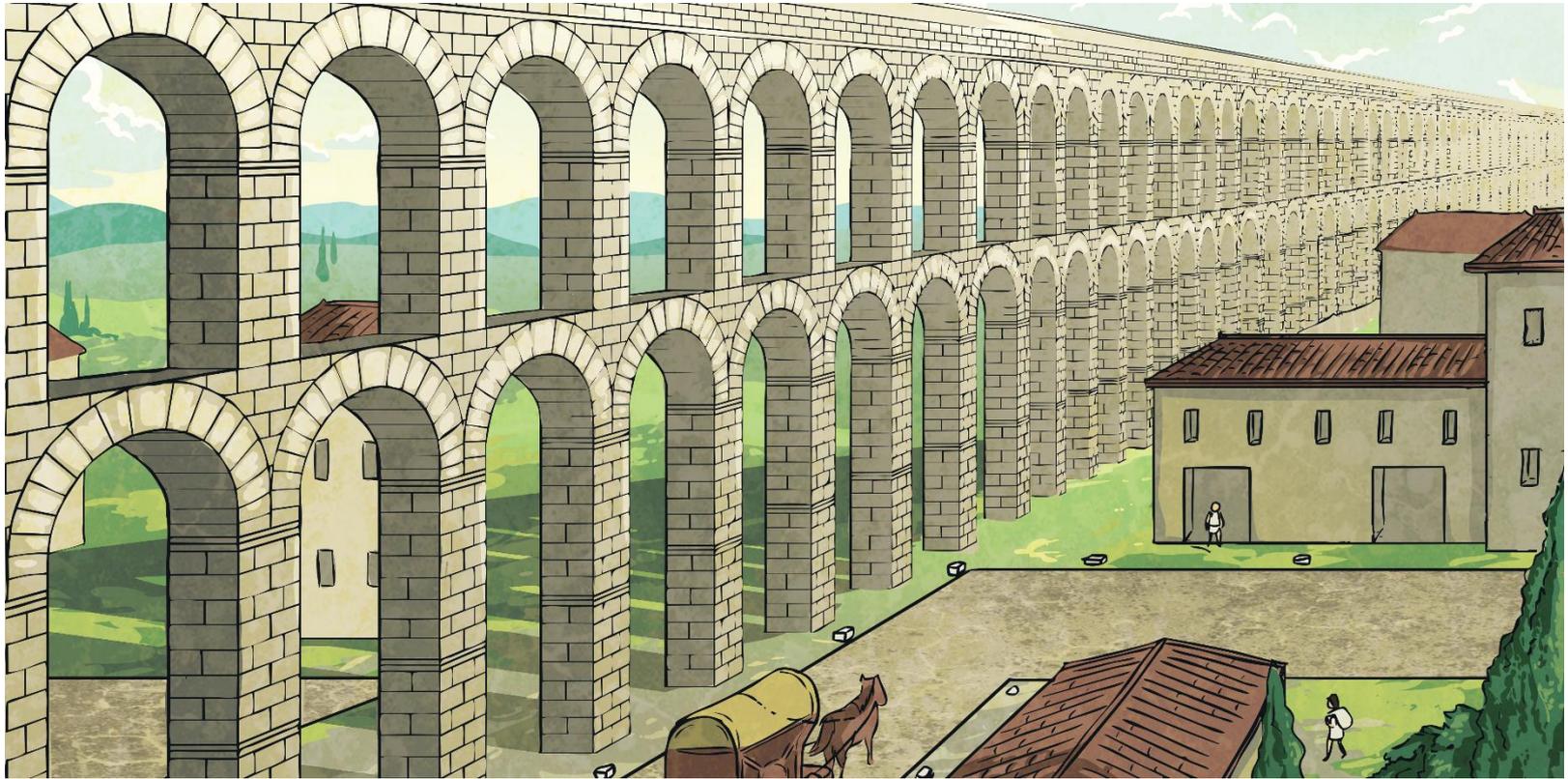
Water was heated by furnaces (fires) which were maintained by slaves and the hypocaust system used hot air under the floor to distribute the heat to where it was needed.



The baths were often elaborately decorated with statues and fine mosaics. There were mirrors on the walls, beautiful glass ceilings and smooth marble-lined pools.

Roman Baths

If water was not available from natural springs at the site, it had to be brought in using an aqueduct system which the Romans developed to transfer water from one place to another.

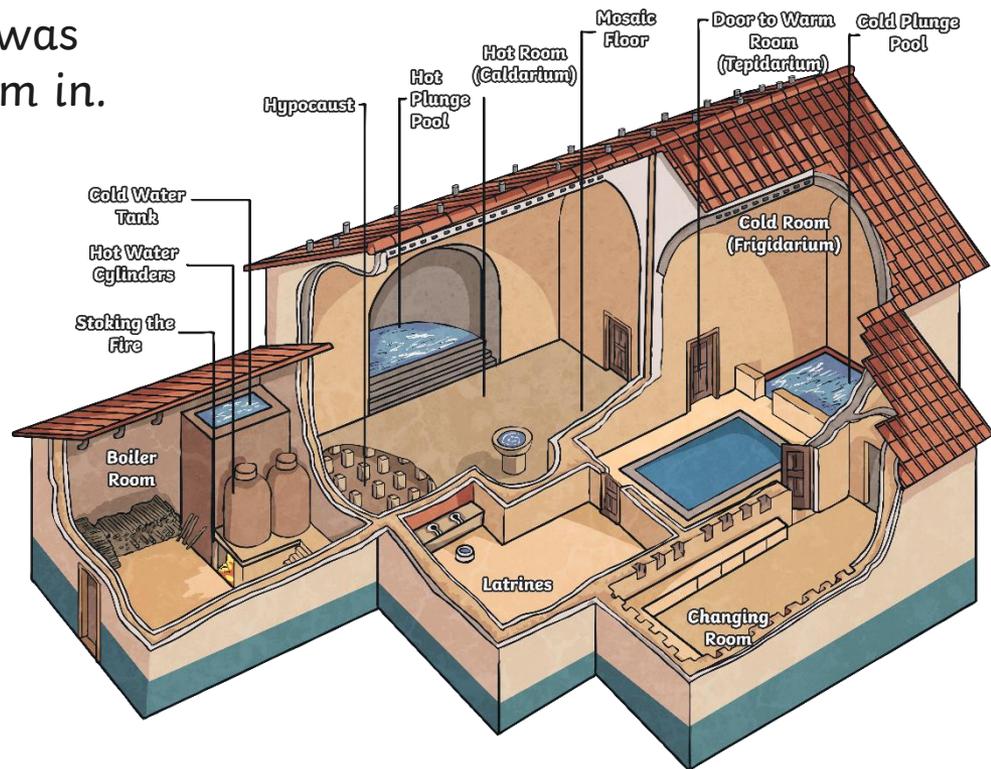
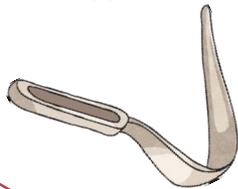


Roman Baths

A Roman bath was not just a bath! Roman baths were based on three main bathing experiences. First, the bathers would relax in a warm room called the tepidarium. After that, they would enter the caldarium, which was a hot room designed to make them sweat out dirt.

The final frigidarium bath was cold and big enough to swim in.

In the caldarium, a tool called the strigil was used to scrape dirt off the skin.



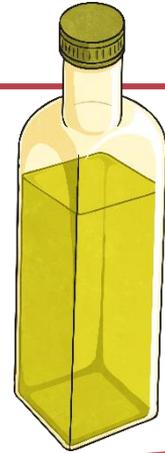
More to Do!

Many Roman baths offered other services too, making a visit to the bathhouse a total spa experience!

There was a gymnasium where people could exercise and get fit.



Masseurs were employed to give massages and help soothe aching muscles. They would also rub oil into the skin.

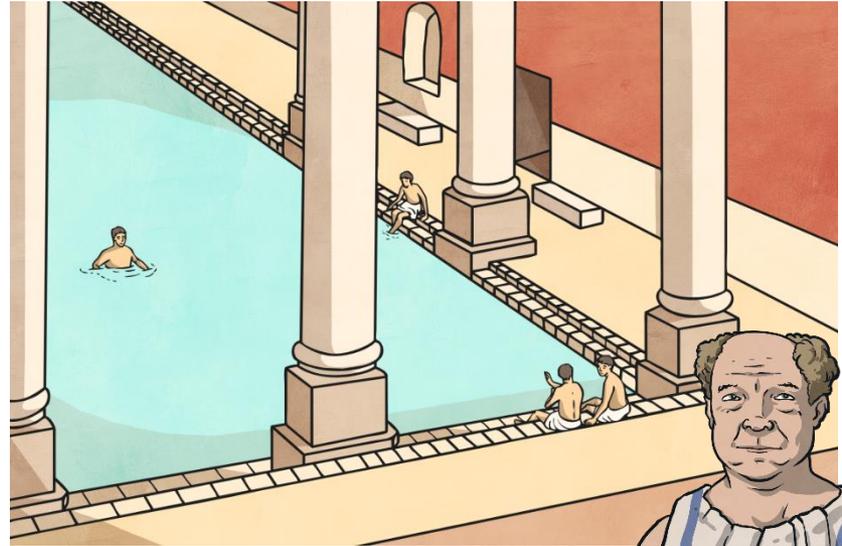


Vendors sold food and drink at many stalls.



More to Do!

- Some baths had separate plunge pools, steam rooms and saunas.
- Entertainment was often provided for people relaxing before and after bathing.
- Some of the bigger baths had more than one of each type of room.



There were changing rooms where people could get dressed and undressed. Bathers might bring their slaves to guard their clothes and carry their towels or they could pay an attendant a fee to look after their property instead.



In the Baths

What can you remember about Roman baths from the information you have read?

- 1 How was water brought to the baths?
- 2 How did the Romans heat the water?
- 3 What were the names of the three main bathing experiences?
- 4 What was the name of the tool used to scrape dirt off the skin?
- 5 List three other things that visitors could do in the baths.

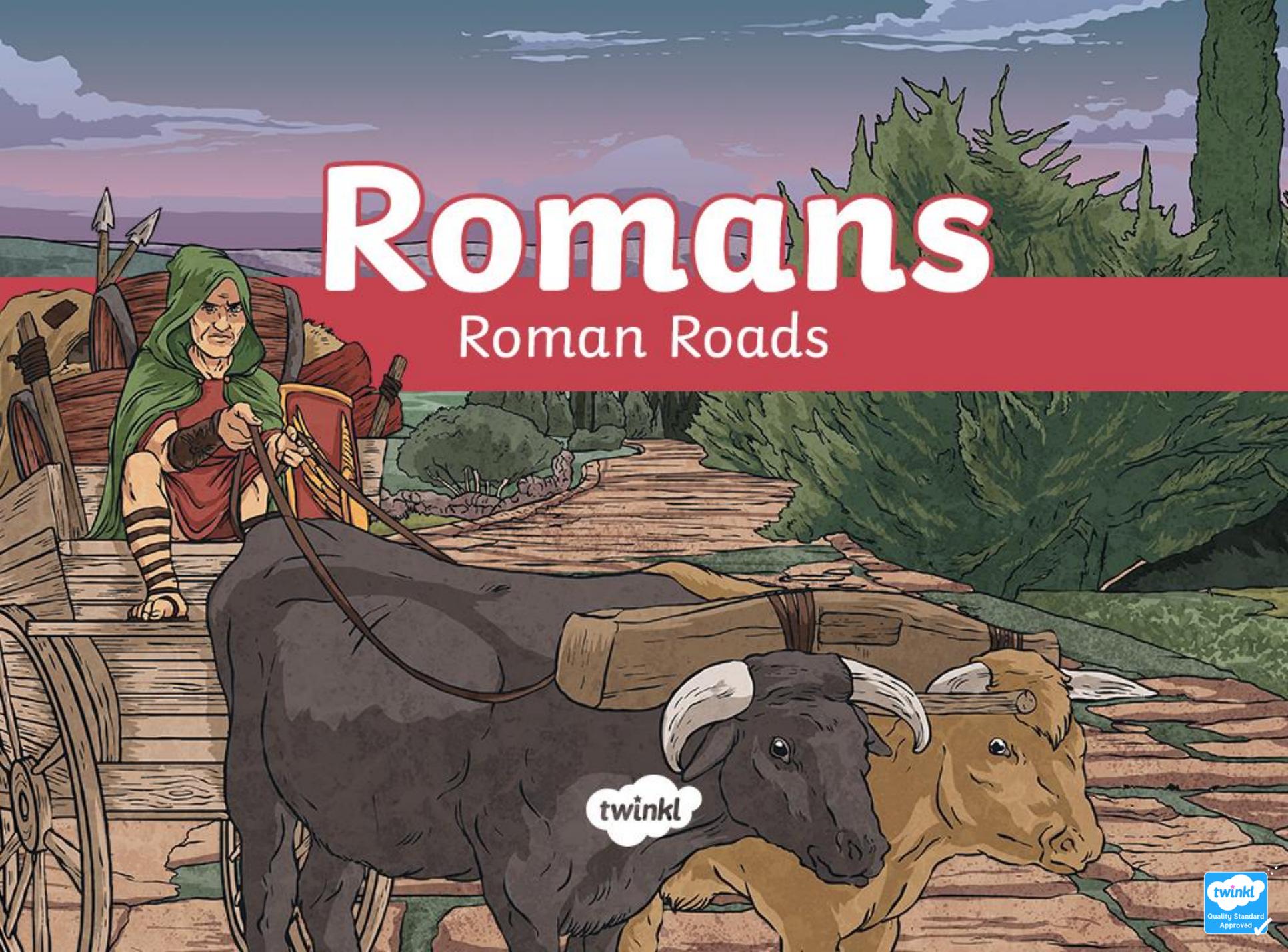




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Romans

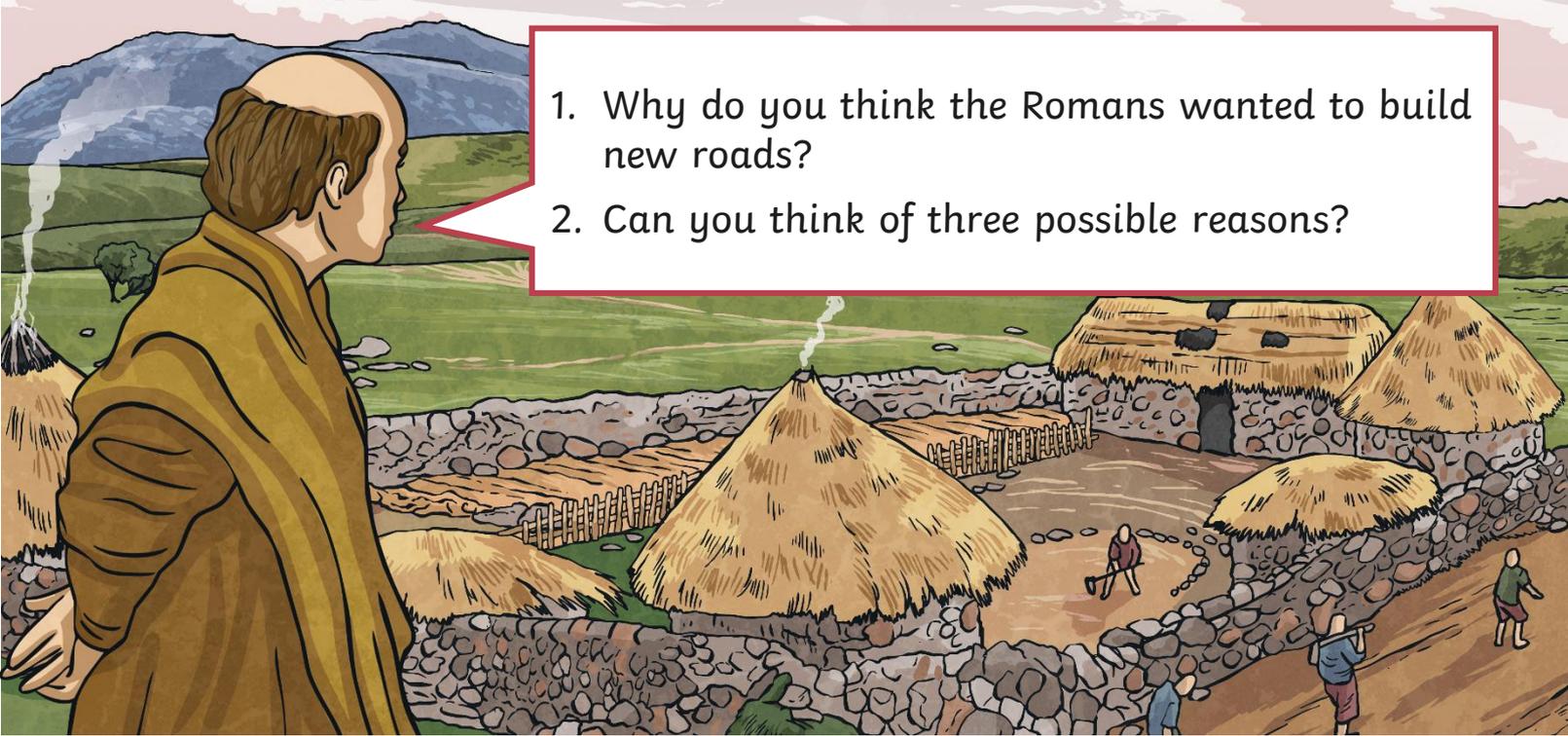
Roman Roads



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Before the Roman Roads

Before the Romans arrived, Britain had no proper roads. The Celts rode horses, walked and travelled in carts pulled by oxen along paths and tracks. These paths and tracks connected local farms and hamlets, and there were some longer routes for trade. These tracks were often in very poor condition.

- 
- An illustration of a man in a brown robe looking out over a village. The village features several round huts with conical thatched roofs. Some huts have smoke rising from them. The huts are surrounded by stone walls and a dirt path. In the background, there are rolling green hills and mountains under a blue sky. A speech bubble is overlaid on the scene, containing two questions.
1. Why do you think the Romans wanted to build new roads?
 2. Can you think of three possible reasons?

Roman Roads

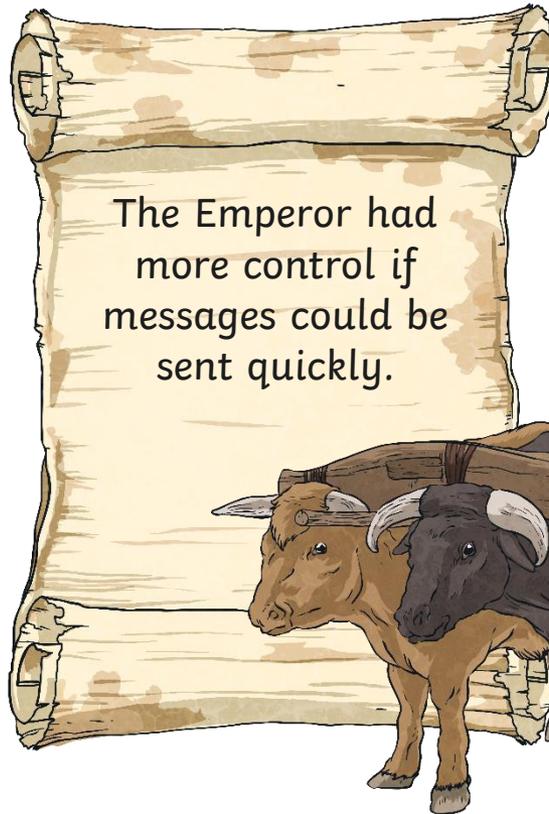


Why did the Romans want better roads?

Did you think of any of these reasons?



Troops could be quickly moved from one place to another.



The Emperor had more control if messages could be sent quickly.

Supplies could be sent to different areas of the country.



Better links between places was good for trading.

Roman Roads

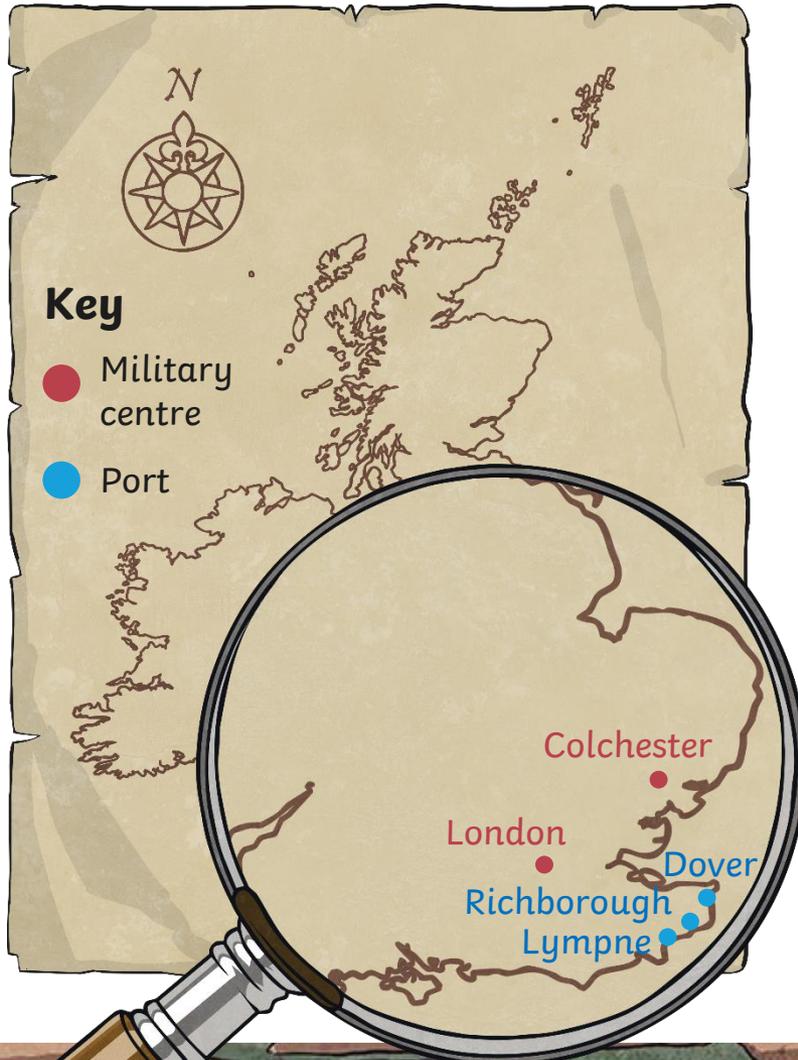
The Romans were famous for their long, straight roads. You can still see some Roman roads today, two thousand years after they were built.



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The First Roman Roads

Why was it important for the Romans to link the military centres to the ports?



The First Roman Roads

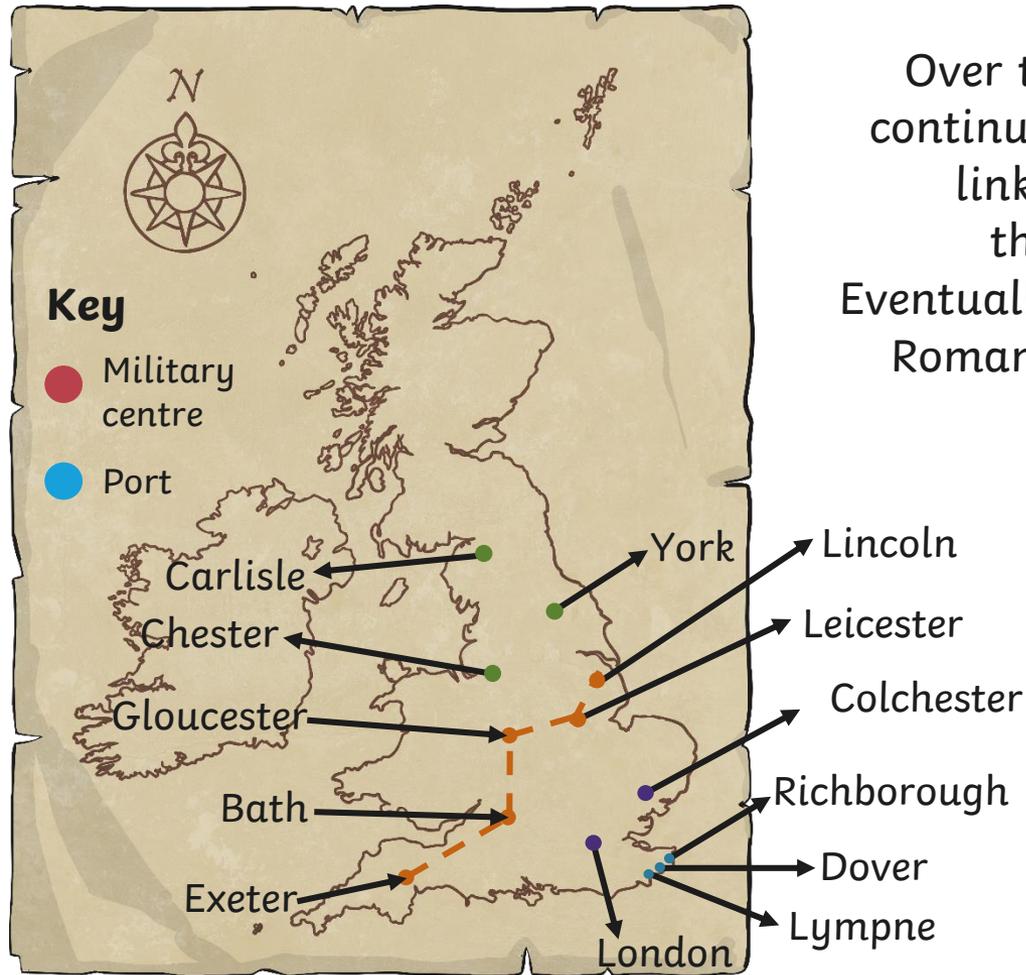


The Fosse Way was one of the first great Roman roads in Britain. It ran from Exeter to Lincoln, passing through Bath, Gloucester and Leicester.

Can you find the Fosse Way on a map?



The First Roman Roads



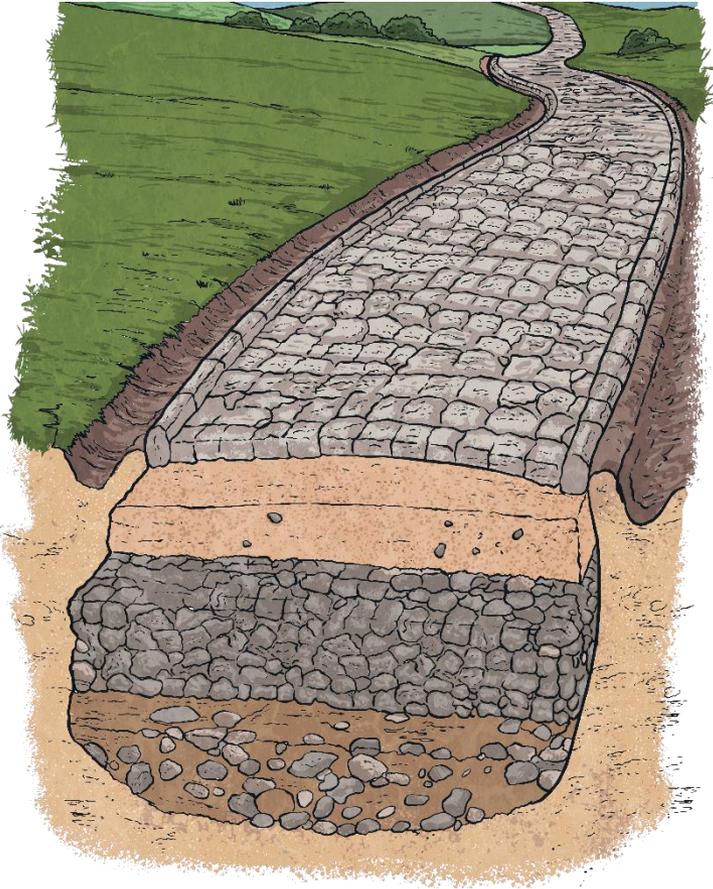
Over the years, the Romans continued to build more roads, linking to many places throughout Britain. Eventually, around 2000 miles of Roman roads had been built.

Other Routes

- Chester to York
- London to Lincoln to York
- Chester to Carlisle
- Dover, Lympe and Richborough to London to Wroxeter

Building the Roads

To build a Roman road, we would need to:



- 1 Dig a large ditch the width of your road.
- 2 Fill your ditch with a layer of rubble and a layer of stones.
- 3 Dig two smaller ditches either side.
- 4 Cover the stones with a layer of sand or small pebbles and gravel, thicker in the middle to make a camber so that the rain will drain off into the two side ditches.
- 5 Set a layer of smooth paving stones into the sand or gravel to make a hard surface.

Building the Roads

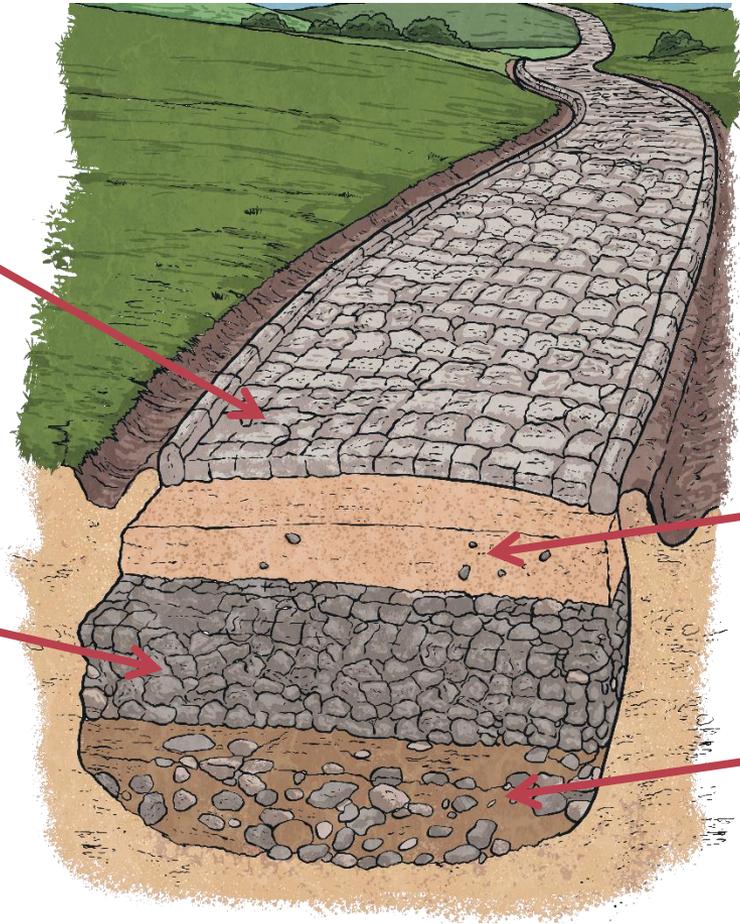
Can you name the parts of this Roman road?

smooth
paving stones

stones

sand, pebbles
and gravel

rubble





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Romans

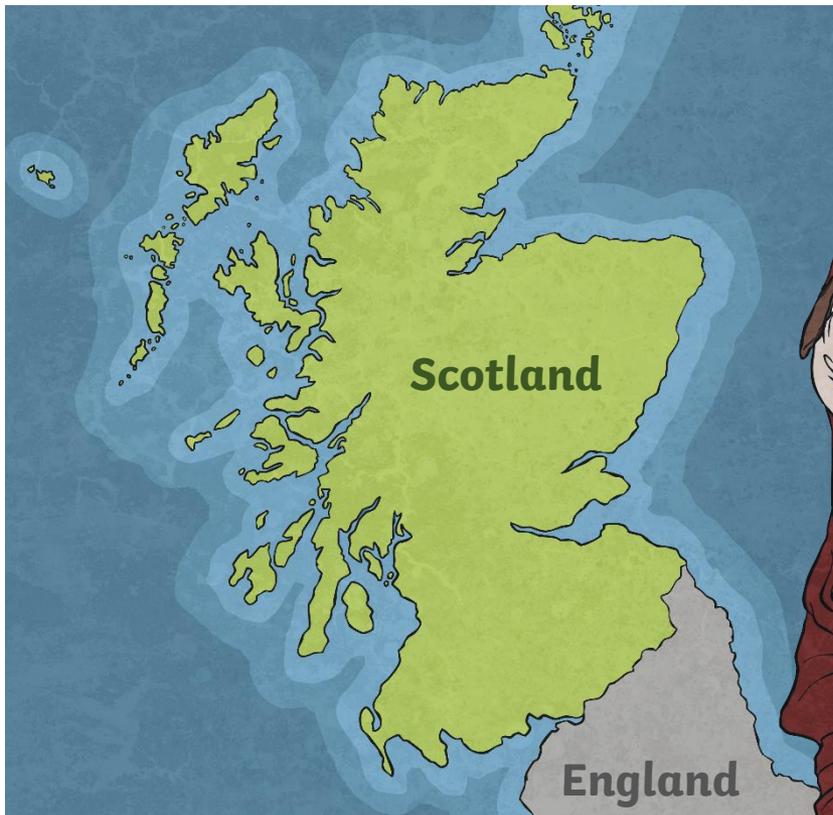
Hadrian's Wall



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The Picts

Scotland was known as Caledonia during the Roman era and many Caledonian tribes fought battles against the Romans who tried to take their land.



The Picts



In AD 84, the different tribes all banded together to form a group that the Romans called the 'Picts' after the Romans defeated them in a big battle. However, the Romans did not go on to take Scotland as the Roman army was called back home to deal with other issues. This meant that Scotland never became a part of the Roman empire.

According to the Romans, the Picts were a feisty, formidable force who kept raiding their territory in Britain. The Romans wanted a way to separate their land from the Picts'.

Hadrian's Wall

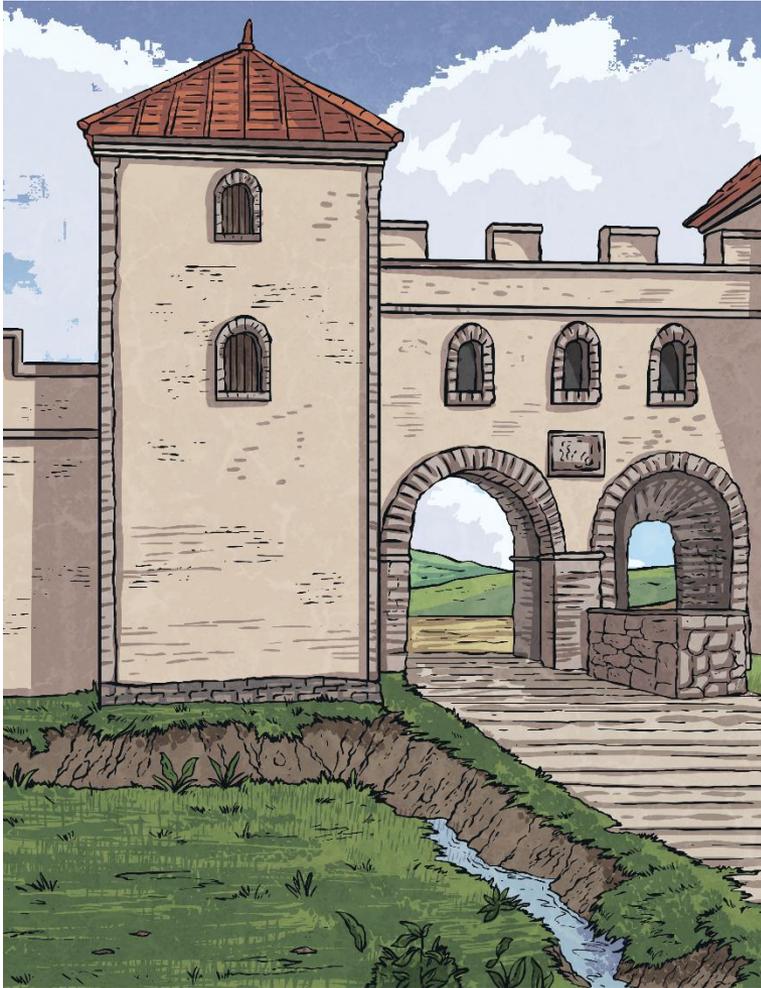


The solution for dealing with frequent attacks from the Picts came in the form of a great wall.

The Roman Emperor Hadrian is best known for building this wall across northern Britain which helped the Romans defend their occupied land.

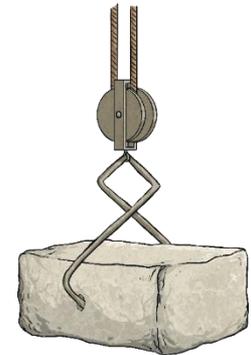
The wall also meant that the Romans could control who was entering and leaving Roman territory and charge taxes to those who wanted to come in.

Building the Wall



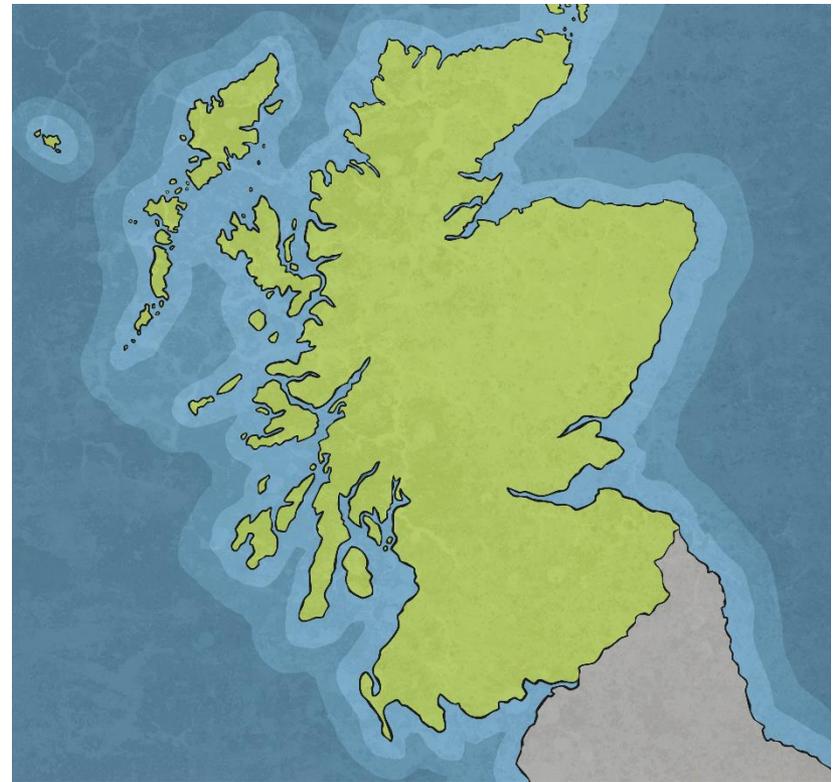
The Romans began building the wall in AD 122 and it took 16 years to build.

The wall was built by three Roman legions (15,000 men) using mostly stone. It was 117.5km long (or 80 Roman miles), up to 6m high and 3m wide. This meant that two Roman soldiers could perform sentry duty side-by-side.

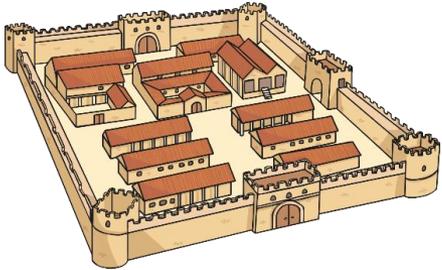


Along the Wall

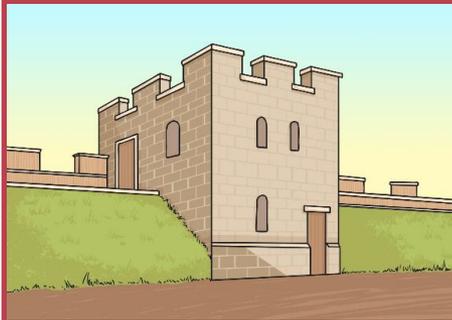
The wall ran from Bowness-on-Solway on the west Coast to Wallsend on the east Coast. It passed through Carlisle, Gilsland, Chollerford and Corbridge among many other places.



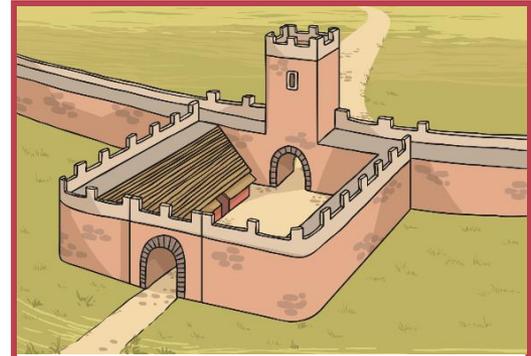
Not Just a Wall



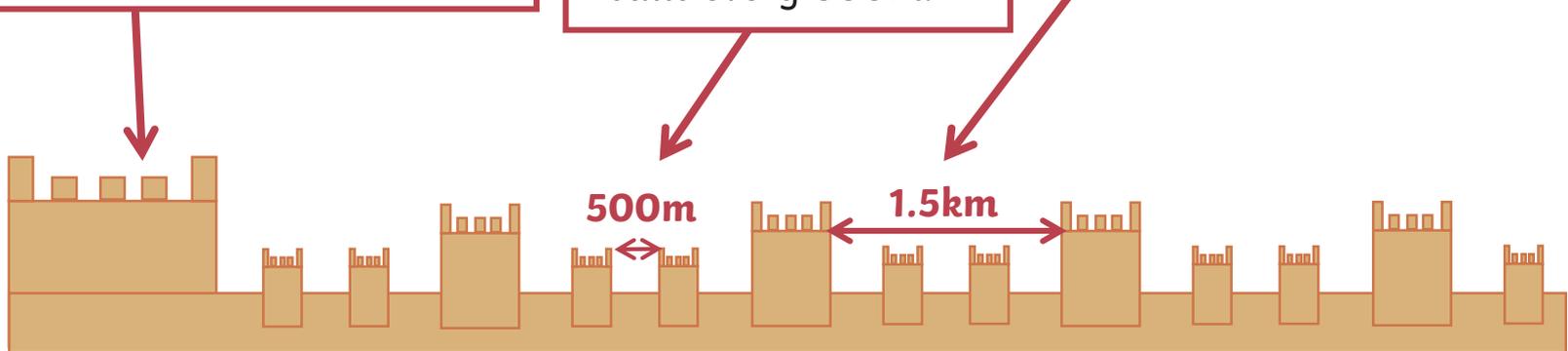
Major **forts** were built along the wall every 8km. These forts could accommodate between 500 to 1000 Roman soldiers!



There was a **turret** guarded by soldiers built every 500m.



There was a **milecastle** containing 20 soldiers every Roman mile (1.5km).



Life at the Wall



Since thousands of soldiers were stationed along the wall, provision had to be made in order for them to be able to live their lives. Inside the forts were barracks for the soldiers, a larger house for the commander and his family, a grain store, toilets and sometimes a hospital. There would also be a bathhouse just outside the fort so soldiers could keep clean. Over time, villages and communities developed around the forts. These settlements would contain houses, shops, temples and taverns. They were probably where the soldiers' wives and families lived.

Life at the Wall

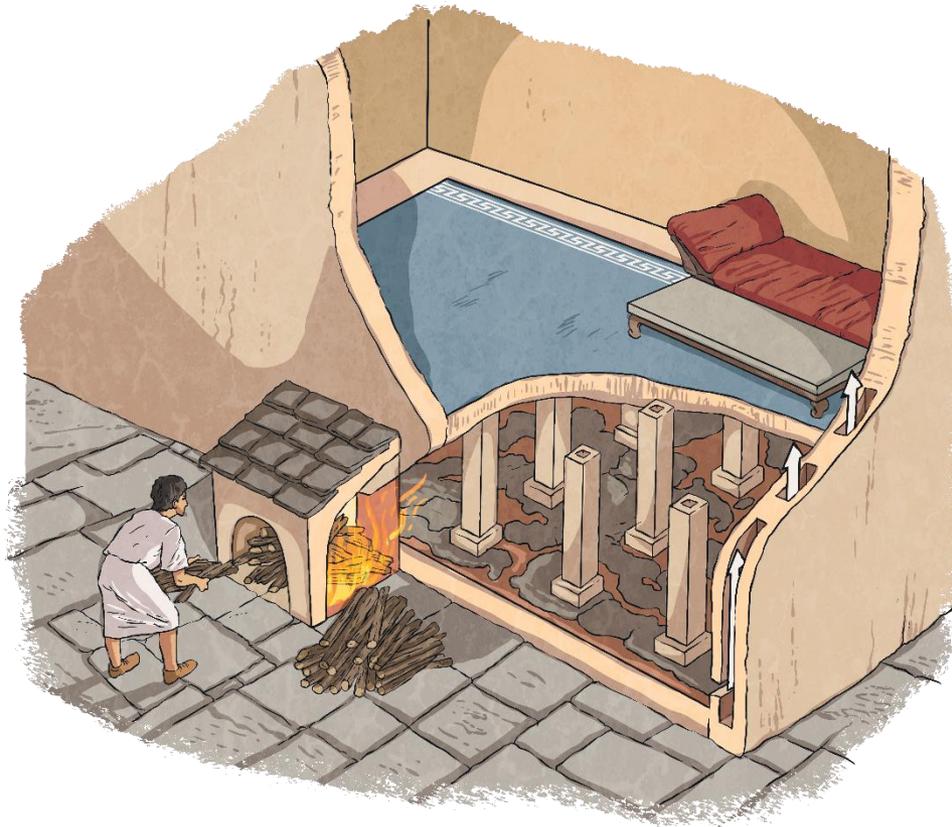
One of the forts was called Housesteads. It had a hospital, granary, barracks, workshop and toilets.

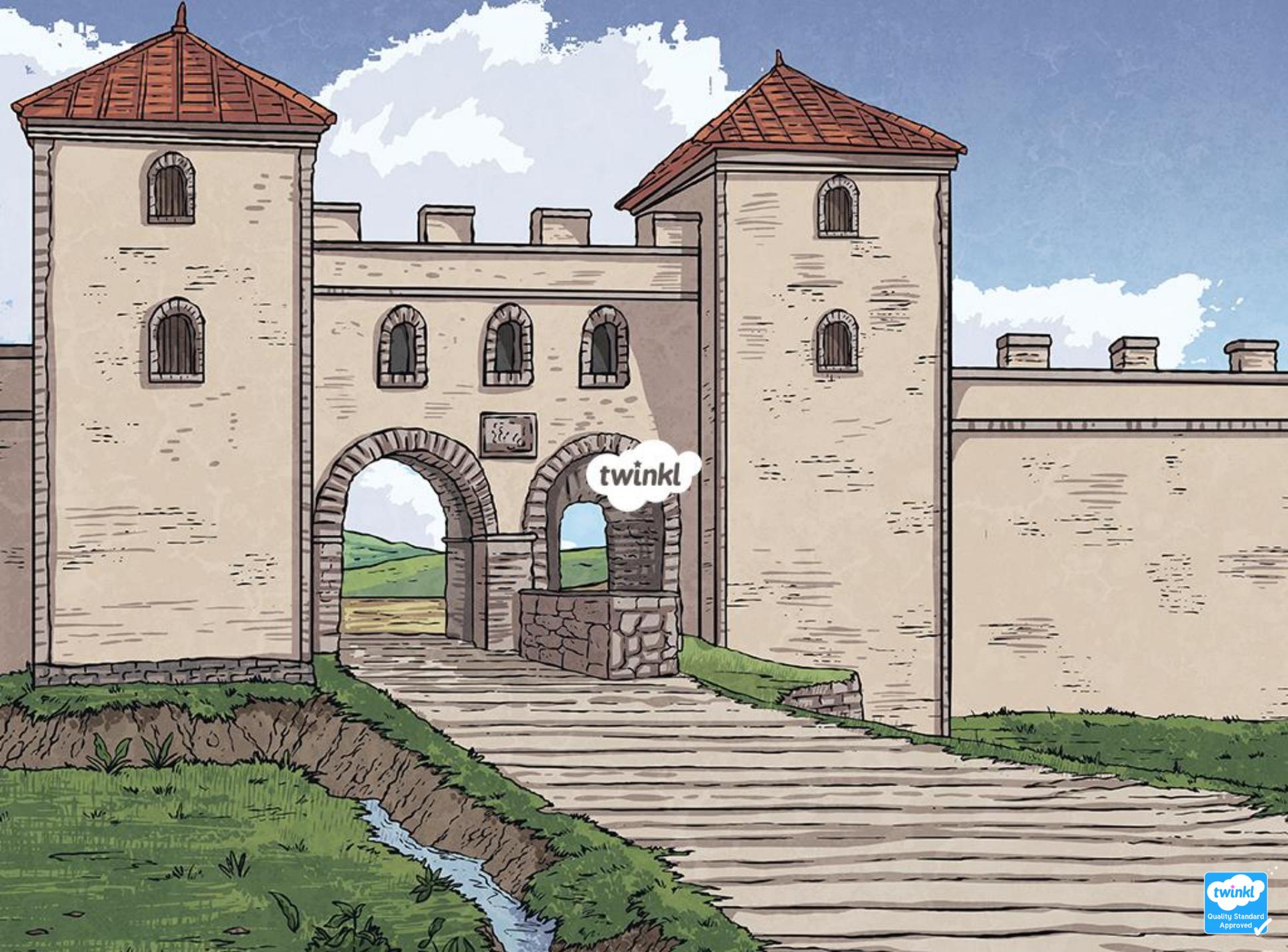


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Life at the Wall

A Roman road called the Stanegate was built to supply the soldiers based at Hadrian's Wall. Grain was kept dry in a store by the use of a hypocaust, similar to the system used in Roman baths.





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The Roman Legacy



What is a Crime?



Questions

1. What crimes can you think of?
2. What sort of punishment might happen to a person who commits that crime?
3. How is it decided whether a person is guilty of the crime or not?
4. Why do you think people commit crimes?
5. Would those reasons have been the same for people hundreds of years ago?



Let's go back in time 2,000 and find out what happened if someone committed a crime when the Romans were in charge...

Crime and Punishment: The Romans

450 BC

Twelve Tables
Written

AD 43

The Romans
invade Britain

AD 410

End of Roman
rule in Britain

Roman laws were called the 'Twelve Tables'. They were written around 450 BC – these were basic rights for all Roman people and decided what they should and should not do.

The laws written in the Twelve Tables dealt with all manner of crimes, from serious crimes, such as murder, and less serious crimes, such as stealing. The laws also dealt with cleanliness – homeowners had to clean the street outside their home. Children learnt the laws off by heart at school.



Crime and Punishment: The Romans

People accused of committing a crime were taken to court to be judged guilty or not guilty.

There were no police to catch a criminal – people had to catch the criminals themselves.

In Britain, the job of finding a criminal was down to the **legionaries**.



Crime and Punishment: The Romans

Punishments were **severe**. Their main purpose was to **deter** people from committing crimes. The worst possible punishment was kept for anyone who tried to **rebel** against the Emperor.

The punishment you received depended on what money and possessions you had.

If you were a slave, you had no rights at all. The punishment for most slaves was death – by many different, awful means – or to be forced to become a gladiator.

However, if you were a noble and had plenty of money, you were often saved from death and told to go into **exile** instead.

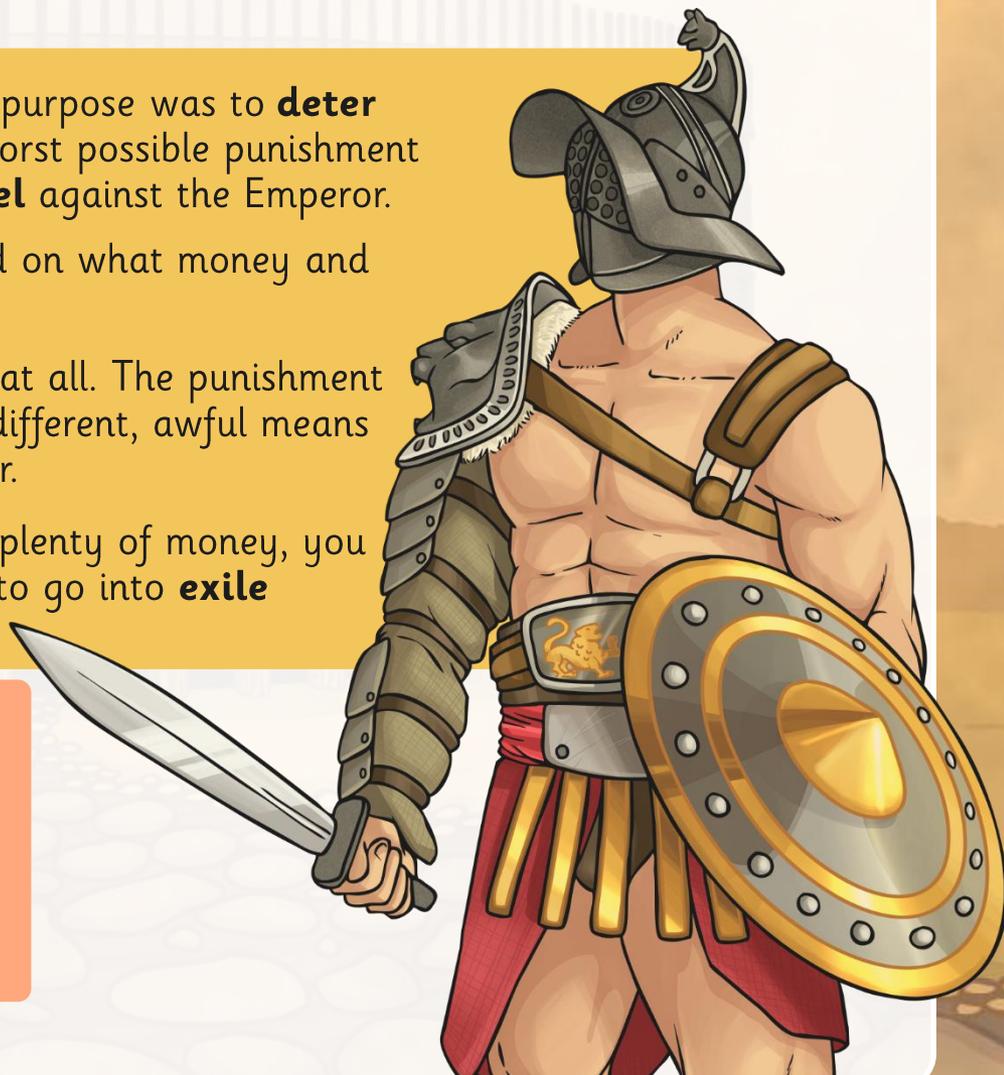
Glossary

Severe – very strict or harsh

Deter – to try to stop something happening.

Rebel – to resist or not follow the orders of the person in charge.

Exile – to be sent away from the country you live in, and not being allowed to come back.



Crime and Punishment: The Romans

Crimes	Punishments
Small-scale theft	Flogging Beating Repaying cost of stolen goods
Burglary	Amputation of limbs
Murder, arson , libel	Execution – in lots of different ways! Exile (if you are a noble)
Rebellion; not worshipping the Emperor	Crucifixion or thrown to the lions Being forced to become a gladiator

Glossary

Arson – deliberately setting fire to property

Libel – to damage someone's reputation with false information

Minor crimes	Serious crimes
Small-scale theft	Rebellion against the Emperor
Burglaries	Not worshipping the Emperor
Street robbery/ violence	Murder (less serious than the two crimes above!)
Rioting at games or contests	

Did You Know?

Singing a song about someone that wasn't true was punishable by death!

If you set a fire near any houses, you would be bound and set fire to yourself.



Roman Punishments

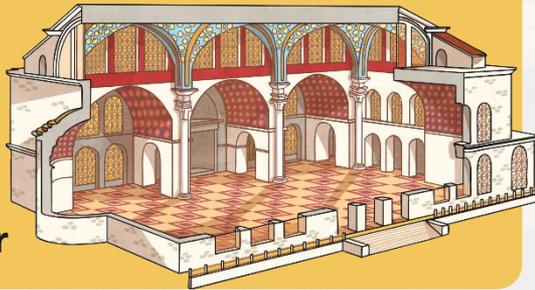
Roman Crimes and Punishments



The Roman Legacy

Luckily, the terrible punishments that existed in Roman times do not exist anymore! However, there were lots of ideas that the Romans started that are still used in the British **justice system** today. These are the use of a:

- Court
- Judge
- Jury
- **Lawyer**



In Roman times, the victim of the crime had to bring evidence to court to show what had happened. If they had enough money, they could pay for a lawyer to help them. If it was a serious crime, a jury would decide whether that person was guilty or not. If it was a minor crime, a judge would decide.

In present-day Britain, the use of a court and trial still happens today. However, everyone has the right to a fair trial. This means, if a person cannot afford a lawyer, the government will pay for one or help to pay the cost.

Glossary

Justice system – the way in which a country decides how to punish criminals and make sure that the law is followed so that people are kept safe.

Legacy – something that is left behind by something or someone that was there before.

Lawyer – a person who will give evidence about matters of the law.



Crime and Punishment Vocabulary

Can you find out what some of these words mean?

People	Crime	Punishment
Judge	Theft	Exile
Jury	Murder	Execution
Witness	Arson	Pillory
Victim		
Court		



Changing Punishments



Questions

1. Which of the punishments still happen today?
2. Why do you think its different now?
3. Did the Romans have a fair system to punish people? Think about the difference between whether you were a slave or a noble.



