

How did the Romans change life in Britain?

When the Romans invaded Britain they made lots of changes to people's lives. Can you explore the Roman Gallery and look for clues of how the Romans changed life in Britain? **How successful do you think these changes were?**

Buildings

Before the Romans came, Britons lived in **roundhouses**.

Find our roundhouse in the gallery and try to answer the questions below.



What materials did the Britons use to build their houses?

Circle all of the correct answers

- Wood Brick Straw
Glass Animal poo Stone

What do you think it would have been like to live in these roundhouses?

Circle all of the correct answers

- Warm Crowded Noisy
Cozy Smoky Dark

The Roman invasion changed the way people built their houses.

Find the headquarters in the centre of the gallery and try to answer the question below.

What materials did the Romans make their buildings from?

Circle all of the correct answers

- Stone Wood Brick
Metal Tiles Glass



The Romans also built many great structures like Hadrian's Wall. Hadrian's Wall ran for 80 Roman miles (73 modern miles). It was built to mark the north-west frontier of the Roman Empire and to keep out invaders.

Have a look at map of Hadrian's Wall and try to answer these questions:

Where does the wall start and where does it end?



How high is the wall?

Find the **replica** of Hadrian's wall in the gallery. **Can you find the 5 original stones? How can you tell they are original stones?**

The Britons and the Romans used different materials to make their buildings and structures like Hadrian's Wall. Both ways had good points and bad points. **Can you think of some good and bad points for both?**

Which do you think was quicker to make- a British house or a Roman one? Which materials are stronger? Which building might last longer?

Writing

Before the Romans came, the Britons did not write their history down- instead they liked to share it by telling stories. The Romans changed this when they introduced writing, and their own language called Latin.

Writing allowed the Romans to rule from a distance. They could send clear instructions on how to carry out a task to anywhere in the Empire!

Have a look around the gallery and try to find some examples of **Roman writing**.

Can you find some on tiles? Altars? Coins?
Can you find any other examples?



Roman Writing challenge!

Draw your own image of some Roman writing you found:

The Romans had their own alphabet. You will notice that J, K, W, Y and Z are missing. You would have to use the closest letter you could find for those letters. For example, you would use I for J, so Julius Caesar would have been written IVLIVS CAESAR.



Can you use the Roman alphabet to write your name in the box below?

Message game

Make a big circle with your class- get your Teacher to tell a message to one person, who then whispers it to the person next to them. Keep passing that message around the circle until it is back to the start. Remember you can only tell it to your neighbour once! **What happened when you passed the message? Did the message stay the same?**

Now try the same thing, but this time write the message down and pass the note around!

Which do you think works better- writing messages down or telling them person to person? Why do you think this?

Medicine

The Roman army brought trained doctors from Greece to work in hospitals in forts like Segedunum. These doctors had new ideas and ways of treating people.



Can you find some surgeon's tools? What might they be used for?



They also used different herbs and plants to make cures and medicines. **Can you find some of the plants they used?**

Circle all of the correct answers

Poppy White mandrake Lemon
Tomato Cardamom Saffron

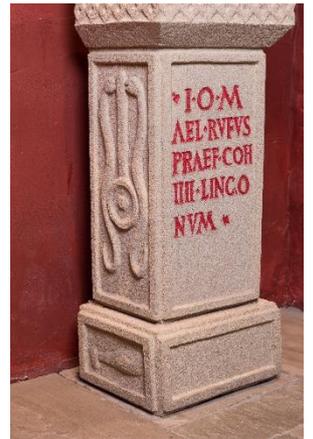
How would a Roman doctor fix someone's broken ribs? What special seed did they use?

The Romans only had hospitals at forts- everyone else was treated at home.

Can you find a soldier's injury? What caused it?

Religion

The Romans brought their own religion with them but also took on the beliefs of people/ places they conquered. They believed in gods and goddesses that helped with different things. **Can you find the Roman god and goddess of Healing- what are their names?**



To worship their gods the romans built decorated altars to pray and ask the gods to help them. They left offerings like wine, animals, and sometimes even personal belongings. **Can you find a Roman altar? What kind of pictures does it have on it?**

Make your own altar!

Draw a picture of a Roman altar below. What kinds of offerings might you leave on it? Draw them on too!

A large, empty rounded rectangular box with a black border, intended for a student to draw a Roman altar and its offerings.

Trade

The Roman Empire was huge and covered lots of different countries. These countries all produced different products like food, pottery, and coins that were used all over the Roman Empire.

Have a look at **a map** of the Roman Empire. **Can you name some countries that were part of the Empire?**

Circle all of the correct answers

Italy	England	Sweden	France
Syria	Australia	Spain	Scotland

When the Romans came to Britain they brought lots of new foods with them, like garlic, onions, olives, wine, figs, and fermented fish sauce. They even brought new animals like rabbits and chickens! **Why might the Romans have needed to import these foods? Do you think the Britons had them?**



Like us, the Romans paid for things using money. This money was made in different countries and could be used right across the Empire.

Find some metal coins in the museum and try to answer these questions:

Who are the people on the coins?



Which countries do some of these coins come from?

Do they look like our coins today? What is similar about them? What might be different?