

The Romans

The purpose of this lesson is:

to investigate who the Romans were, and why they came to Britain.

Learning objectives

Children should learn:

- to select and record information about Roman ways of life;
- about aspects of life in Roman Britain, using a variety of sources.

Class objective:

- to find out who the Romans were, and why they came to Britain.

Learning outcomes

Children should be able to:

- select relevant information from a number of sources;
- record relevant information about the Roman way of life.

Programme of study

- 1a** place events, people and changes into correct periods of time;
- 2a** characteristic features of periods and societies studied, including the ideas, beliefs, attitudes and experiences of men, women and children in the past;
- 4a** find out about events, people and changes from an appropriate range of sources of information, including ICT-based sources;
- 4b** ask and answer questions, and select and record information relevant to the focus of the enquiry;
- 5a** recall, select and organize historical information.

Prior learning

- It would be helpful for children to have an understanding of where Rome is on a map.
- It is essential that the children understand the term 'invade'.

Vocabulary

army, Celt, Claudius, conquer, crops, emperor, invade, minerals, Roman, Roman Empire, tin, tribe

Resources

- **Resource sheet RS4.1:** *The Roman Empire*
- **Activity sheet AS4.1:** *Why the Romans came*

Introduction

- Begin the lesson by sharing the class objective: **to find out who the Romans were, and why they came to Britain.**

- **Activity sheet AS4.2:** *Roman Recorder*
- A globe or world map

Cross-curricular links

- **Geography:** Key skills (maps and mapping)
- **Literacy Framework:** Yr4 Non-fiction articles in newspapers

Differentiation

- It is a good idea to organize the children into mixed-ability pairs for **Activity sheet AS4.1:** *Why the Romans came.*
- Some less able children will require help from another adult to complete **Activity sheet AS4.2:** *Roman Recorder.*

Assessment opportunities

Assessment of each child's understanding of this lesson can be done through analysis of his/her contribution to the paired work and the completed newspaper article.

Advance preparation

Enlarge **Resource sheet RS4.1:** *The Roman Empire* on to A3 paper or make it into an OHT.

Activity 1 The Roman Empire

- Gather the children together. Show the children the enlarged copy of **Resource sheet RS4.1**: *The Roman Empire*. Get the children to identify Britain on the

map. Explain that the thick black line shows the extent of the Roman Empire. Ask the children if anyone can show you where the Romans came from.

Activity 2 Why the Romans came

- Ask the children to go to their seats. Give out **Activity sheet AS4.1**: *Why the Romans came*. Ask the children to work in pairs to read the sentences and decide which are the correct reasons why the Romans came

to Britain. After a short while, ask one pair to tell the class what they have decided. Discuss these findings with the class.

Activity 3 Newspaper articles

- Give out **Activity Sheet AS4.2**: *Roman Recorder*. Explain to the children that each of them is to imagine that s/he is a Roman general. Ask them to write a newspaper article, in which they explain why it is a good idea for soldiers to go to Britain. Explain to the children that the Roman soldiers were frightened of going to Britain, because they had heard about the tribes who lived there. In fact, they

nearly refused to go! The Roman Emperor, Claudius, even sent elephants over to Britain. He thought that they would scare the Celtic tribes, who had never seen such an incredible animal before.

- Read through the instructions on the sheet with the children. Check that all the children have understood the set task.

Plenary

- Five minutes before the end of this lesson gather the children together. Ask two or three of the children to share their newspaper articles with the class.

Homework

- Remind the children to continue with their Roman project work.

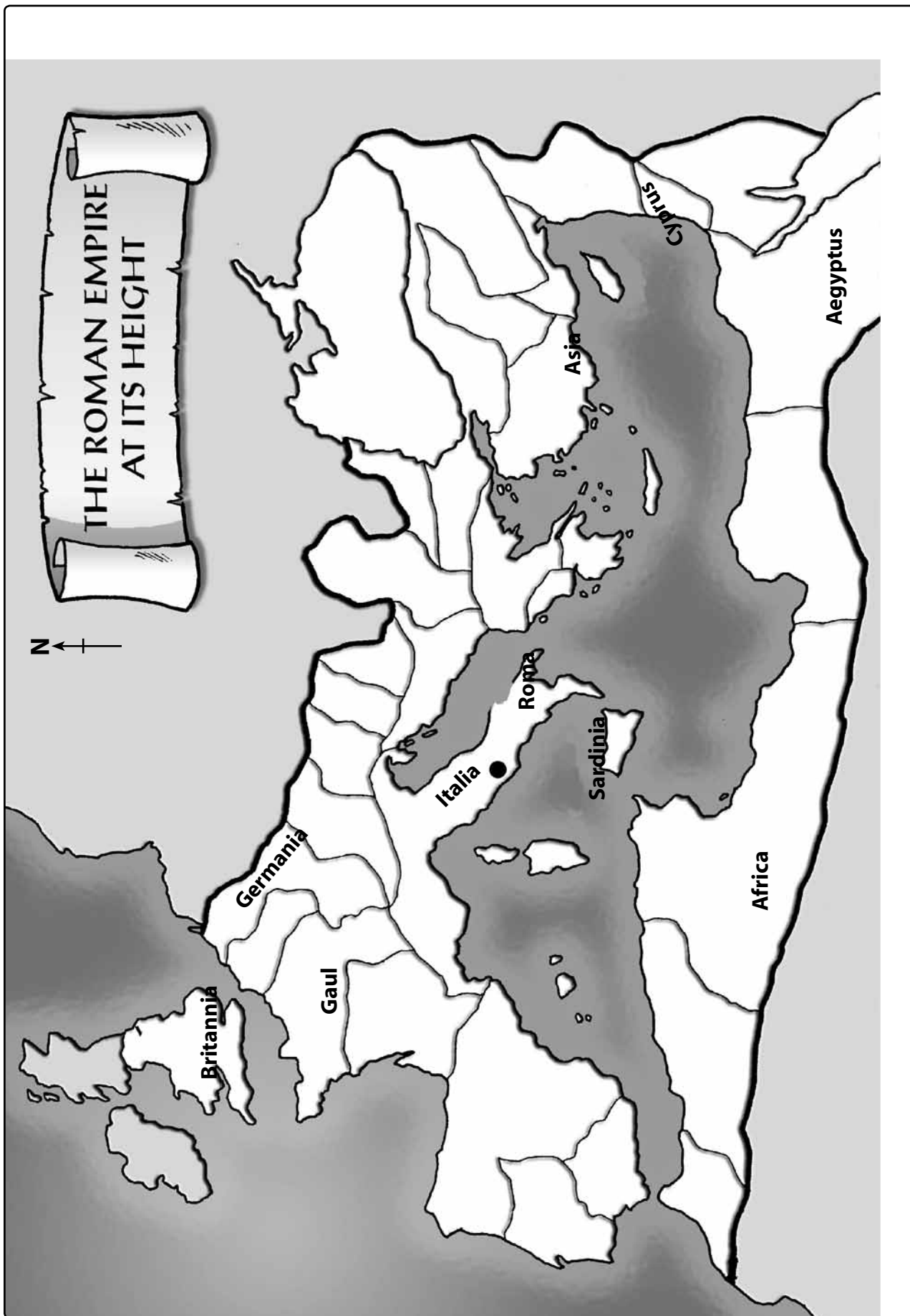
Notes/evaluation

History

Notes/evaluation

The Roman Empire

Resource sheet 4.1



Why the Romans came

Activity sheet 4.1

Names:

Why did the Romans come to Britain?

Decide which are the correct reasons and put a tick in the box alongside.

1. They hated the Druids (the Celtic priests).

2. They were worried about the fierce Celts.

3. They wanted to taste British food.

4. They wanted to expand the Roman Empire.

5. They loved the weather in Britain.

6. They wanted tin and other minerals.

7. They liked blue face make-up.

8. They wanted good farming land to grow grain.

Roman Recorder

Activity sheet 4.2

Name:

You are a Roman general. Write a newspaper article, to encourage Roman soldiers to come to Britain. Write the article in the large box, and then draw an elephant in the small box.

Here are some ideas to help you:

- the chance to fight
- the chance to pay back the Celts who helped the Gauls fight the Romans
- the chance to be famous
- the chance to get rid of the Druids
- the chance to build forts
- the chance to build roads
- the chance to frighten the Celts with elephants

Roman Recorder

Win Glory in Britain!

This article is written by:

