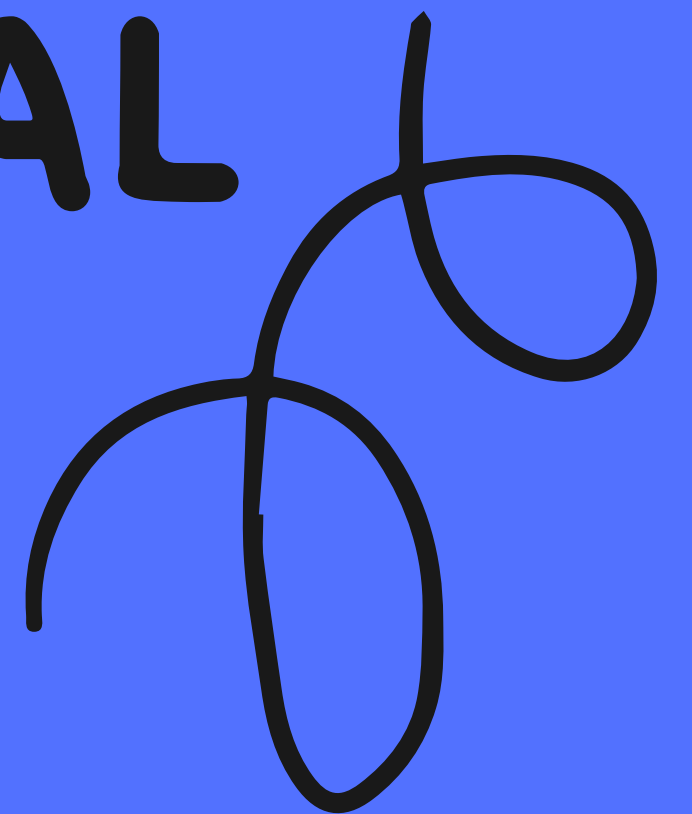




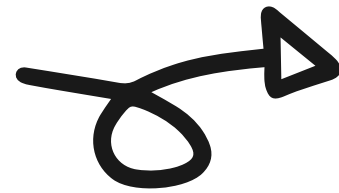
# Romans In Britain

MUSEUM OF CLASSICAL  
ARCHAEOLOGY



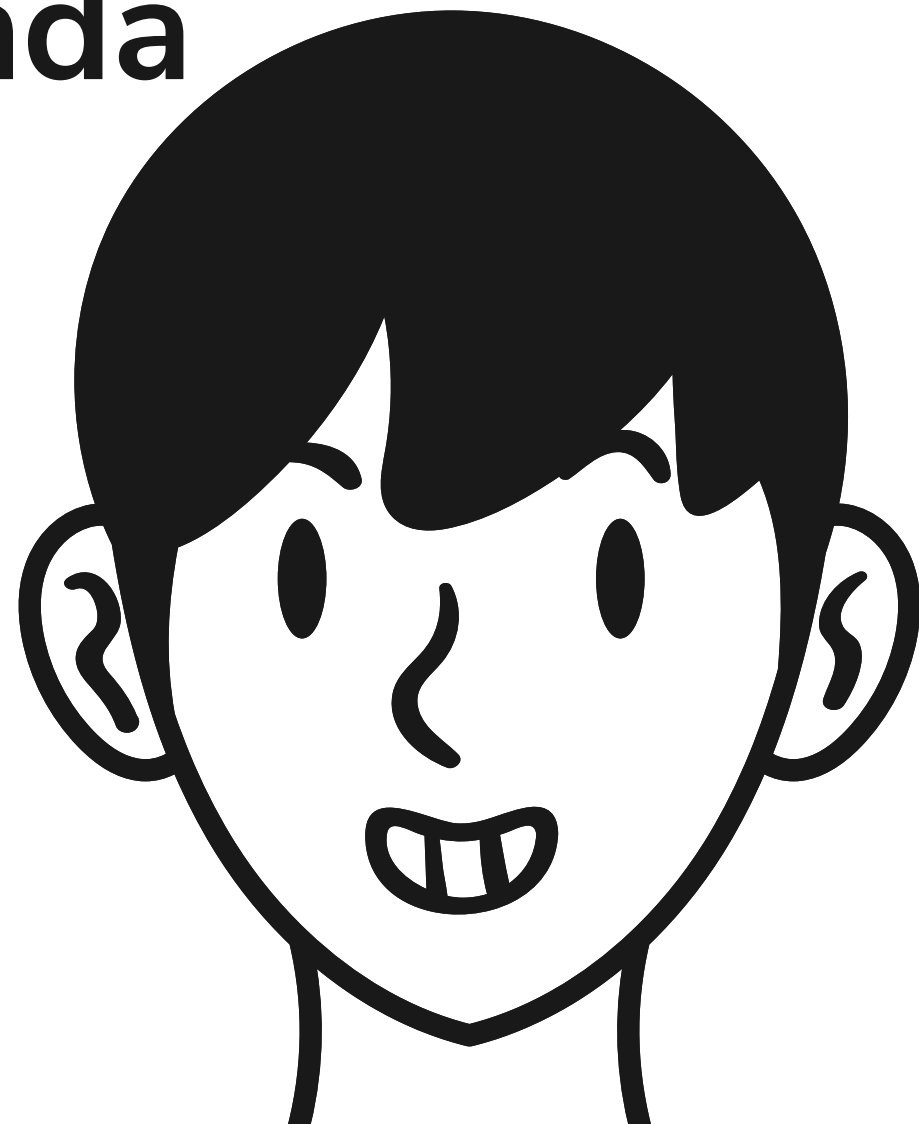
# Welcome!

## Today's Agenda



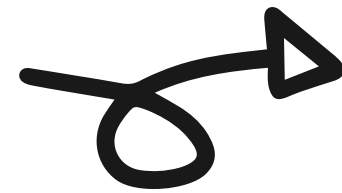
Find out more about the objects and habits that the Romans introduced to Ancient Britain.

Learn about the people who lived in Britain at the time (we call them Britons).



# Romanisation

## Brief Introduction



When the Romans conquered England in the 1st century AD they brought many new objects and habits. Eventually, Britons started using similar objects and behaving in similar ways. We call this process "Romanisation".



# Sorting Activity

When the Romans conquered Britain they introduced many new things to this far away land. Can you choose which of the things below were new to Britain and which ones were already here when the Romans arrived?

The image shows a museum display of Roman artifacts. At the top, there are six items in white-bordered boxes: a photograph of a Roman street with columns, a bronze oil lamp, a golden coin, a marble bust, a terracotta jar, and a bronze helmet. Below these are two large white boxes with red borders: 'Introduced by the Romans' on the left and 'In Britain before the Romans' on the right. The background features several marble busts of Roman figures on red pedestals.

**Living in Houses**

**Metal**

**Slavery**

**Introduced by the Romans**

**In Britain before the Romans**

Did you get them all? Find out on the last page.



Time to find  
out more





# Ancient Roman Pottery: Terra Sigillata



## Activity:

1. What patterns and images can you see on this pot? Copy the decorations you can see into your sketchbook.
2. This pot has been broken. Can you imagine what the rest of it looked like? What could it have been used for?

- This type of pottery is called Terra Sigillata or Samian Ware. The distinctive red pottery was made in Gaul and other places in Europe.
- This particular shard was found in Lincoln, England.
- Britain gained access to fashionable goods like this when it became part of the Roman empire.



# Roman Oil Lamps



- Clay Oil lamps like these two are found all over the Roman Empire.
- They first arrived in Britain with the Romans!
- Before that people in Britain used candles or torches.



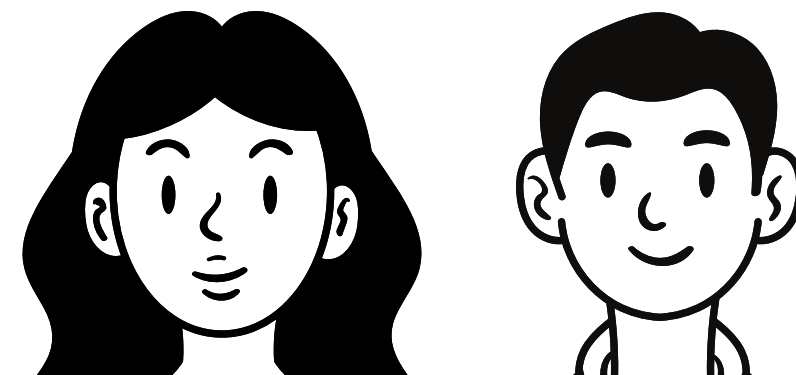
## Activity:

1. These two lamps from our collection are quite different. Try describing how they compare and contrast. How are they similar?



# Slaves in Britain

- It is unlikely that the people who lived in what is now Britain used or traded slaves before the Romans came.
- This changed as soon as Britain became part of the Roman empire.
- People were not only enslaved by the Romans coming to Britain. They also actively participated in the slave trade.
- Britons sold and bought slaves in towns like Londinium since the 2nd century AD.





# Villas

A villa is a big country house surrounded by gardens.

Roman villas were very different from modern grand houses or even farms. They had a specific layout.

This form of architecture was introduced to Britain by the Romans.

They were used for leisure by rich people.

Slaves and servants worked in the villa, serving the master and his guests.

The villa was also similar to a farm. Slaves and servants worked on the farm tending to animals and crops.

This created wealth for the enslaver, but not for the slaves and servants.

## Activity:

1. Most roman villas had a grand hallway (atrium), a dining room, a kitchen and many bedrooms for family and guests. The rooms were arranged around a garden. Imagine your perfect country villa. What rooms would it need?



**Thank you for learning about  
the romans with us.**

For more learning and fun activities visit our [website](#).



# Sorting Activity Answers

Did you get them all?



**Introduced by the Romans**

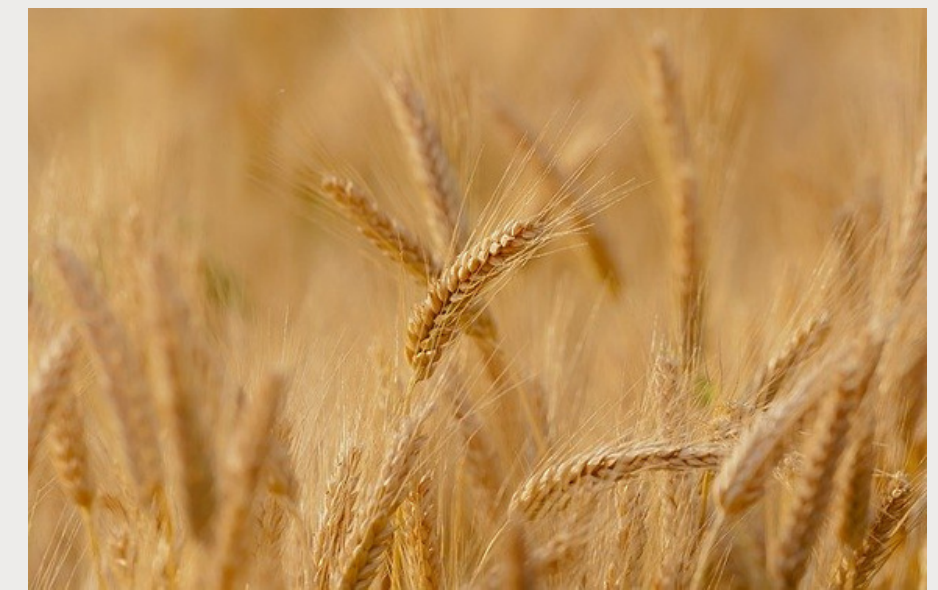
**In Britain before the Romans**

**Oil Lamps**



**Villas**

**Living in Houses**



**Crops**



**Terra Sigillata/  
Samian Ware**

**Slavery**

**Metal**