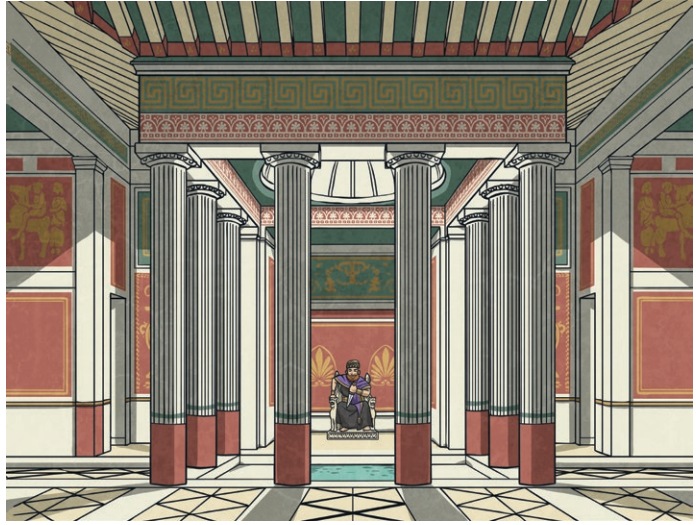


The Story of Romulus and Remus

A long, long time ago, in Alba Longa in Italy, King Numitor lived. He was not king for long because his younger brother, Amulius, wanted to be king and managed to get the throne.

To make sure that nobody else would take the throne back off him, he had Numitor's sons killed and made his daughter, Rhea Silvia, become a Priestess



of Vesta meaning she was not allowed to have children so there was no one who could be king in the future.

However, his plan went wrong because Rhea Silvia had twins with Mars, the Roman God of War as the father. Amulius was scared of Mars, so he did not kill Rhea Silvia for breaking the rules instead he put her in prison and told a servant to take the twin boys and leave them in the River.

Amulius did not know that when the servant came to the River he felt sorry for the boys, and let them float down the river in their basket where he hoped they would be rescued.

The boys were saved when a wolf found them and took them to safety where she protected and cared for them. The wolf looked after the twins until a shepherd came one day and took them home to be looked after by him and his wife. They called the boys Romulus and Remus.

The shepherd and his wife cared for the two boys as if they were their own sons and Romulus and Remus became shepherds like their father.

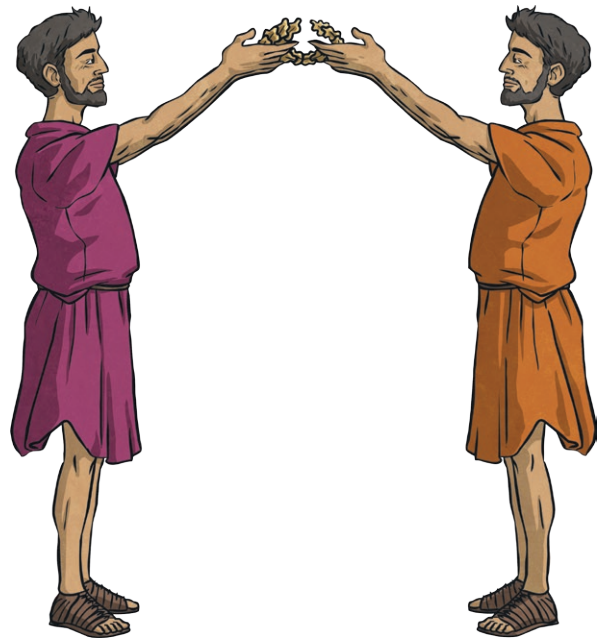


The Story of Romulus and Remus

One day, Romulus and Remus met some of the king's shepherds and the men got into a fight. Remus was caught and taken back to King Amulius, who did not know who he was.

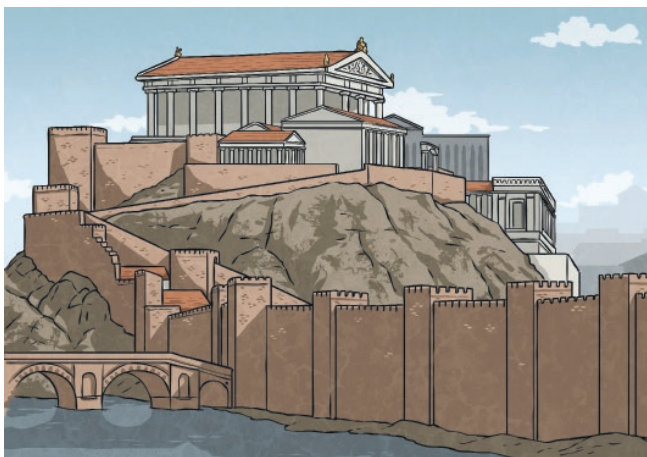
Meanwhile, Romulus decided to go and rescue Remus. He travelled to Alba Longa, killed the king and saved his brother.

The people of the city were not angry with the boys because they found out who they were. Instead, they wanted to crown them both as kings but the boys did not want to be kings because they wanted to build their own city somewhere else. So they went in search of a place.



They eventually found a place but they argued about on which hill the city should be built. Romulus wanted Palatine Hill but Remus wanted Aventine Hill so they decided to wait for a sign from the gods to tell them which hill they should use.

The sign from the gods was a group of birds but each brother believed they had won so the problem was not solved. Romulus decided to start building a wall around Palatine Hill, but Remus was jealous and started a fight where Remus was killed.



Romulus was now free to build his city, which was finished on the 21st April 753BC. He made himself king and named the city 'Rome' after himself. This was the start of one of the most powerful cities in the world for the next thousand years.

Questions

1. Name Romulus and Remus' birth mother.

2. Who was the city of 'Rome' named after?

3. Number these events in the order they come in the story:

The servant put the twin boys in the river

Romulus kills Remus in a fight

The boys are offered to be joint kings of Alba Longa

Amulius becomes king

4. Finish this sentence:

Mars was the...

5. Name the hill on which Remus wanted to build his city.

6. On what date did Rome finish being built?

7. How come there was only one brother who built a city?

8. Do you think the servant of Amulius did the right thing? Give reasons for your answer.

Answers

1. Name Romulus and Remus' birth mother.

Romulus and Remus' birth Mother was called Rhea Silvia.

2. Who was the city of 'Rome' named after?

The city of Rome was named after Romulus.

3. Number these events in the order they come in the story:

The servant put the twin boys in the river

2

Romulus kills Remus in a fight

4

The boys are offered to be joint kings of Alba Longa

3

Amulius becomes king

1

4. Finish this sentence:

Mars was the...

(Roman) God of War

(also accept the father of Romulus and Remus)

5. Name the hill on which Remus wanted to build his city.

Remus wanted to build his city on Aventine Hill.

6. On what date did Rome finish being built?

Rome finished being built on 21st April 753BC.

7. How come there was only one brother who built a city?

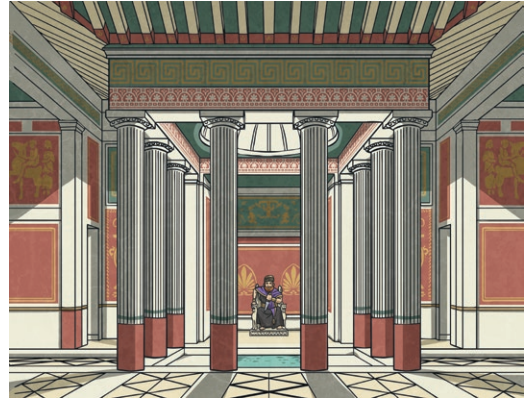
There was only one brother left to build a city as the other brother (Remus) had been killed (by Romulus).

8. Do you think the servant of Amulius did the right thing? Give reasons for your answer.

Open-ended but must be backed up with a reason referring to the story.

The Story of Romulus and Remus

Nearly three thousand years ago, in a place called Alba Longa in Italy, lived King Numitor. All was fine until the king's younger brother, Amulius, wanted the throne for himself and took it. Amulius also made sure that nobody would take the throne back off him, so he had Numitor's sons killed and made his only daughter, Rhea Silvia, become a Priestess of Vesta, which meant that she was not allowed to marry or have children because Amulius worried that she might have a son one day who could become king.



However, the plan went wrong because Rhea Silvia fell in love with Mars, the Roman God of War, and they had twin sons. Breaking the rules of the Priestesses of Vesta usually meant death, but Mars was a hugely powerful man and Amulius was scared of him. Instead, he put Rhea Silvia in prison and ordered a servant to take the twins and put them in the River Tiber.

What Amulius did not know was when the servant came to the river, he felt sorry for the boys, so he left them in their basket and let them float down the river, where he hoped they would be rescued.

The servant's hopes were right, as a she-wolf found the boys and pulled them to safety, where she protected and cared for them. The wolf looked after the twins until a shepherd came along one day and took them home to be cared for by him and his wife. They gave the boys names: Romulus and Remus.

The shepherd and his wife loved and cared for the two boys as if they were their own sons and Romulus and Remus became shepherds like their father.

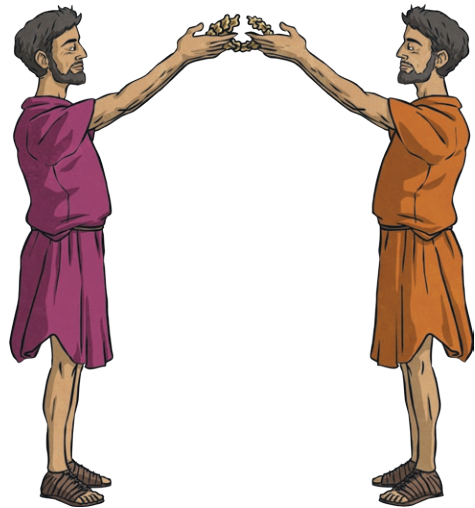


The Story of Romulus and Remus

One day, while the boys were with their sheep, they met some shepherds of King Amulius and the men ended up fighting. Remus was caught and taken back to King Amulius, who did not recognise him.

Meanwhile, Romulus gathered a group of shepherds to go and rescue Remus. Eventually, Romulus managed to free Remus but not before killing the king.

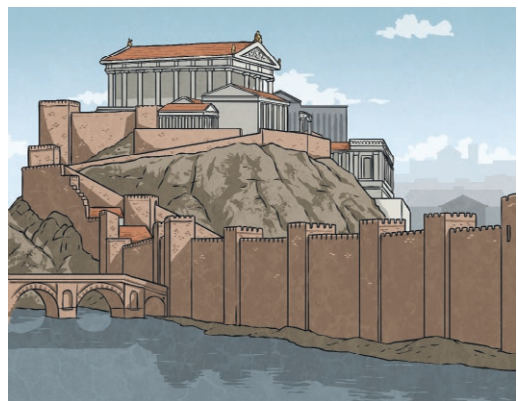
The people of the city were not angry with the boys when they found out who they were but instead wanted to crown them as joint kings. Surprisingly, the boys turned down the offer because they wanted to build their own city.



After a journey, Romulus and Remus found the place they wanted as their city. However, they disagreed on which hill the city should be built. Romulus wanted Palatine Hill whereas Remus preferred Aventine Hill so they decided to wait for a sign from the gods to tell them which hill they should use.

The sign from the gods was a group of vultures but each brother believed they had won. Still not managing to agree, Romulus went on to build a wall around Palatine Hill, but Remus was jealous and taunted his brother. They fought and Remus was killed by Romulus.

Romulus, was now free to build his city, which was finished on the 21st April 753BC. He made himself king and named the city 'Rome' after himself. This was the beginning of one of the most powerful cities in the world for the next thousand years.



Questions

1. Name Romulus and Remus' birth father and birth mother.

2. Who was the city of 'Rome' named after?

3. What did Rhea Silvia become after Amulius became king?

4. In the text, the author uses the word '**taunted**'.

Which word or words most closely match the word '**taunted**'? Tick one

complimented

cheered

teased

shouted at

5. Who was Mars?

6. What did the two brothers disagree over?

7. Who gave Romulus and Remus their names?

8. What happened to the twins after the servant put them in the water?

9. How come there was only one brother who built a city?

10. Do you think the servant of Amulius did the right thing? Give reasons for your answer.

Answers

1. Name Romulus and Remus' birth father and birth mother.

Romulus and Remus' birth father and birth mother were Mars and Rhea Silvia.

2. Who was the city of 'Rome' named after?

The city of Rome was named after Romulus.

3. What did Rhea Silvia become after Amulius became king?

Rhea Silvia became a Priestess of Vesta after Amulius became king.

4. In the text, the author uses the word 'taunted'.

Which word or words most closely match the word 'taunted'? Tick on

- | | |
|---------------|-------------------------------------|
| complimented | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| cheered | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| teased | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| shouted at | <input type="checkbox"/> |

5. Who was Mars?

Mars was the Roman God of War. (Or the father of Romulus and Remus.)

6. What did the two brothers disagree over?

The two brothers disagreed about on which hill they should build their new city.

7. Who gave Romulus and Remus their names?

The shepherd and his wife named the boys Romulus and Remus.

8. What happened to the twins after the servant put them in the water?

The twins floated down the river and were saved by a she-wolf after the servant put them in the water.

9. How come there was only one brother who built a city?

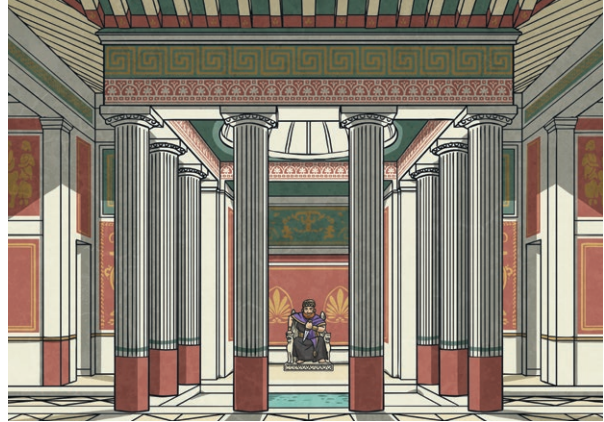
There was only one brother left to build a city as the other brother (remus) had been killed (by Romulus).

10. Do you think the servant of Amulius did the right thing? Give reasons for your answer.

Open-ended but must be backed up with a reason referring to the story.

The Story of Romulus and Remus

Long ago, before Christianity, in the fine city of Alba Longa, Italy, lived King Numitor. All was not well in Alba Longa because the king's younger brother, Amulius, wanted the throne for himself and took it from the king. Amulius was adamant that nobody should threaten his new position so just to make sure, he had Numitor's sons killed and made his only daughter, Rhea Silvia, become a Priestess of Vesta where she was not allowed to marry or have children as Amulius was worried that she might have a son one day to threaten his throne.



However, the plan backfired as Rhea Silvia fell in love with Mars, the Roman God of War, and they had twin sons. Usually, the punishment for going against the rules of the Priestesses of Vesta was death, but Mars was a hugely powerful man and Amulius feared him. Instead he imprisoned Rhea Silvia and ordered a servant to take the twins and put them in the River Tiber.

Unbeknown to Amulius, when the servant arrived at the river, he could not bring himself to throw the babies in so he left them in their basket and let them float downstream, where he hoped they might be rescued.

Good fortune was on the side of the twins as a she-wolf found them and pulled them to safety, where she protected and cared for them while a friendly woodpecker helped them to find food. The animals looked after the twins until a passing shepherd found them and took them home to be cared for by him and his wife. They named the boys Romulus and Remus.



The shepherd and his wife loved and brought up the two boys as their own, both becoming shepherds like their father.

The Story of Romulus and Remus

One day, whilst the boys were with their sheep, they came across some shepherds of King Amulius and the men ended up fighting. Remus was captured and taken back to King Amulius, who did not recognise him as he believed they had died a long time ago.

Meanwhile, Romulus gathered a group of shepherds to go and rescue Remus. Eventually, Romulus managed to free Remus but in the process, killed King Amulius.

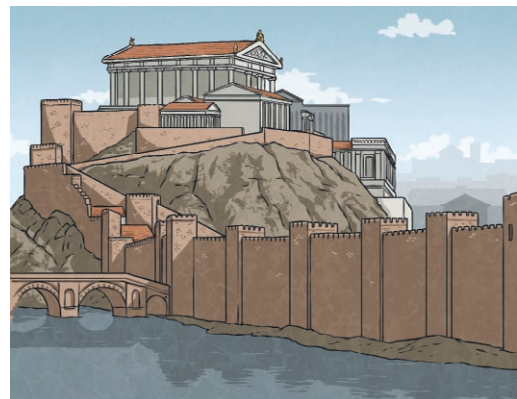
You'd have thought that the city people would be angry with the two boys, but they found out their real identities and offered to crown them as joint kings. Surprisingly, the boys turned down the offer as they wanted to build their own city.



They finally found the place they wanted as their city – where Rome stands to this day. However, it wasn't plain sailing as the two boys disagreed as to which hill the city should be built on. Romulus favoured Palatine Hill, whereas Remus preferred Aventine Hill so they decided to wait for a sign from the God Augury to tell them where to build.

The sign came in the shape of a number of vultures, although Romulus saw six and Remus saw twelve so each brother thought they had won. Not managing to see eye-to-eye, Romulus went on to build a wall around Palatine Hill but Remus, being jealous, taunted his brother and they ended up in a fight where Remus was killed by Romulus.

Romulus, being alone, was now free to build his city as he wished. The city was finished on the 21st April 753BC; Romulus made himself king and named the city 'Rome' from his own name. This was the beginning of the growth of one of the most powerful cities in the world for the next thousand years.



Questions

1. Name Romulus and Remus' birth father, birth mother, grandfather and great uncle.

2. Where did the city of 'Rome' get its name and on which hill is it situated?

3. In paragraph two, which word tells us that King Amulius' plan did not work?

4. In the text, the author uses the word '**adamant**'.

Which word or words most closely match the word '**adamant**'? Tick one

angry

determined

not bothered

charming

5. Why did the people of Alba Longa think that Romulus and Remus should be kings?

6. Why was Rhea Silvia punished?

7. According to this story, how old will the city of Rome be in the year 2020?

8. What sign did God Augury send Romulus and Remus?

9. How come there was only one brother who built a city?

10. Do you think the servant of Amulius did the right thing? Give reasons for your answer.

Answers

1. Name Romulus and Remus' birth father, birth mother, grandfather and great uncle.
Romulus and Remus's birth family are: father – Mars, mother – Rhea Silvia, grandfather – King Numitor and great uncle – Amulius.

2. Where did the city of 'Rome' get its name and on which hill is it situated?
The city of Rome was named after Romulus and it is situated on Palatine Hill.

3. In paragraph two, which word tells us that King Amulius' plan did not work?
The word in paragraph two that tell us the plan did not work is 'backfired'.

4. In the text, the author uses the word 'adamant'.

Which word or words most closely match the word 'adamant'? Tick one

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------------------------|
| angry | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| determined | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| not bothered | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| charming | <input type="checkbox"/> |

5. Why did the people of Alba Longa think that Romulus and Remus should be kings?
The people of Alba Longa thought that Romulus and Remus should be kings because their grandfather, Numitor, was king and they should have been kings after him anyway.

6. Why was Rhea Silvia punished?
Rhea Silvia was punished because she had some children against the law of the Priestesses of Vesta.

7. According to this story, how old will the city of Rome be in the year 2020?
In 2020 the city of Rome will be 2773 years old.

8. What sign did God Augury send Romulus and Remus?
God Augury sent Romulus and Remus some vultures as a sign.

9. How come there was only one brother who built a city?
There was only one brother left to build a city as the other brother (Remus) had been killed (by Romulus).

10. Do you think the servant of Amulius did the right thing? Give reasons for your answer.
Open-ended but must be backed up with a reason referring to the story.