

Welcome to Ancient Rome

Week 10 • Monday • From Small Town to Mighty Empire

Today's Goals

- ✓ Learn where Rome is and how it began.
- ✓ Hear the legend of Romulus and Remus.
- ✓ Discover how Rome grew into an empire.

Reading Time

Our next adventure takes us to **Rome**, a city in Italy built on seven hills beside the Tiber River. The Romans told a legend that their city was founded in 753 BC by twin brothers, **Romulus and Remus**, who as babies were rescued and cared for by a wolf! Romulus gave the city his name.

Rome started as a small town of farmers and shepherds. But the Romans were amazing organizers and builders. Little by little, their armies and roads spread out until Rome ruled lands all around the Mediterranean Sea — from Britain to Egypt!

All these lands together were called the **Roman Empire**, ruled by an **emperor**. At its biggest, around 50 to 90 million people lived in it. The Romans borrowed many ideas from the Greeks — gods, buildings, and art — and added clever inventions of their own.

Reading Questions

1. In what country is the city of Rome?

2. Who were Romulus and Remus, according to legend?

3. What is an empire?

Vocabulary Grid

Write what each word means in your own words.

Rome

empire

emperor

legend

Tiber River

founded

True or False

Write T for true or F for false in each circle.

- ☐ Rome is a city in Italy.
- ☐ Legend says a wolf cared for Romulus and Remus.
- ☐ Rome was built on seven hills.
- ☐ Rome always stayed a tiny town.
- ☐ The Roman Empire was ruled by an emperor.
- ☐ The Romans borrowed ideas from the Greeks.

• **Draw the Legend**

Draw the legend of Rome: the twin babies Romulus and Remus with the wolf who cared for them.

Think About It

1. The wolf story is a legend. How is a legend different from a fact?

2. Why might building beside a river help a city grow?

Review

I learned...	Circle one
Where Rome is located	YES / NOT YET
The legend of how Rome began	YES / NOT YET