

# Crime and Punishment

History

Year 5/6

Lesson 2 of 7

Learning Objective		Resources
To explore crime and punishment in the Roman period.		Slides Worksheet 2A/2B/2C Information Sheet Books, access to internet, etc. Help Sheet (FSD? activity only) Air-drying clay and clay tools (FSD? activity only)
Teaching Input		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Can you remember when the Roman period was? Children to think, pair, share their ideas. Go through the slides explaining when the Romans lived and when they came to Britain. Show children the map of the Roman Empire when it was at its greatest extent.</li> <li>Explain that by the time the Romans got to Britain, they had already developed a very detailed legal process. Citizens were covered by Roman law while non-citizens (most of the population) were covered by local law. Explain the process of catching and trying a criminal and some of the main punishments. In practice, this meant that many crimes went unpunished, so people also asked for divine help. Show the curse tablets from Bath.</li> <li>Explain that the Roman system of law has had a huge influence on the modern practice of law.</li> </ul>		
Main Activity		
<u>Lower ability:</u>  Give children worksheet 2A to create a storyboard for an episode of a Roman crime show. Children use the text to help them draw the story.	<u>Middle ability:</u>  Give children worksheet 2B to create a storyboard for an episode of a Roman crime show. Children are given some text with blanks to help them write and draw the story.	<u>Higher ability:</u>  Give children worksheet 2C to create a storyboard for an episode of a Roman crime show. Help children use the Information Sheet, books and the internet to help them write and draw the story.
Fancy something different...?		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Children create their own curse tablets using air-drying clay and sticks. Get them to make a Latin name for an imaginary friend, decide on an appropriate Roman crime and ask one of the Roman gods to do something nasty to the perpetrator. Children can use the Help Sheet for ideas.</li> <li>Create a display of the curse tablets when children have finished.</li> </ul>		
Plenary	Assessment Questions	
Explain that the main crime in the Roman Empire was against a citizen's property. Property included his wife, children and slaves, as well as animals, his house and any possessions. Do they think it was fair to treat all these things as property and punish crimes against them all the same way? Invite children to share their ideas.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Do children know how crime was detected in Roman times?</li> <li>Do children know how criminals were tried in Roman times?</li> <li>Can children describe some common punishments for criminals in Roman times?</li> </ul>	