

English

Romulus and Remus

W/C

6/07/2020

Activity 1

**As part of our Roman Topic we will be
looking at the myth
Romulus and Remus.**

**Read the story of Romulus and Remus
and answer Comprehension questions
about it into your books.**

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.

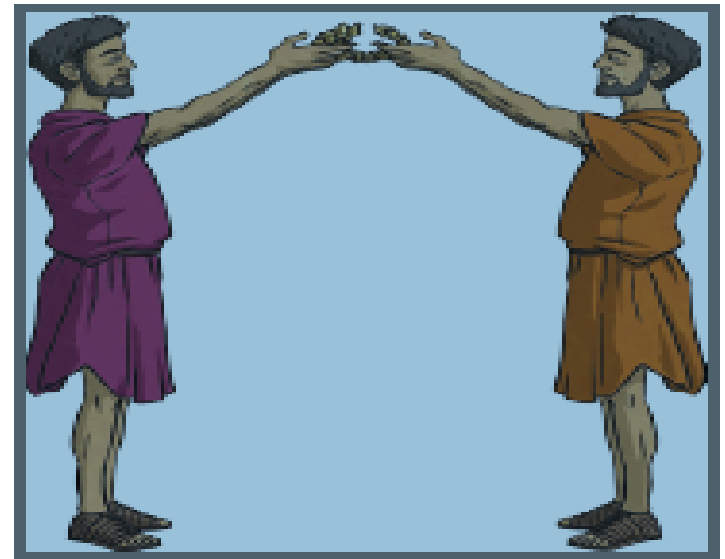
The shepherd and his wife loved and cared for the two boys as if they were their own sons and Romulus and Remus became shepherds like their father.



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.



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. Romulus and Remus' birth father and birth mother were Mars and Rhea Silvia.
2. The city of Rome was named after Romulus.
3. Rhea Silvia became a Priestess of Vesta after Amulius became king.
4. Teased
5. Mars was the Roman God of War. (Or the father of Romulus and Remus.)
6. The two brothers disagreed about on which hill they should build their new city.
7. The shepherd and his wife named the boys Romulus and Remus.
8. The twins floated down the river and were saved by a she-wolf after the servant put them in the water.
9. There was only one brother left to build a city as the other brother (Remus) had been killed (by Romulus).
10. Open-ended but must be backed up with a reason referring to the story.

Activity 2

Describing a Creature

The character of the wolf, who finds and cares for Romulus and Remus, has fascinated people for thousands of years. Let's imagine now that a different creature found the baby boys. What animal could it be? It might even be a mythical creature of your own creation!

Draw the creature and then write a description. Remember to use expanded nouns phrases in your description. Use the question on the next slide help you:

What are its teeth like?	If it has a tail, what is it like?	What sounds does it make?
What is its face like?	How big is it?	How does it move?
What is its skin/fur like?	What are its eyes like?	Does this creature make other creatures fearful?

Activity 3

- You will write spine poem this week.
- Today you will build up a bank of vocabulary to help you.

Talking about Wolves



The wolf in the myth of Romulus and Remus is unusual in that she is presented as a caring, gentle creature. This is not always the case with wolves!



Jot down as many nouns as you can think of when you look at this image e.g. eyes.

Using Nouns for a Spine Poem

Look at the nouns you have collected from the image or your imagination.



Which of these did you get?

nose

fur

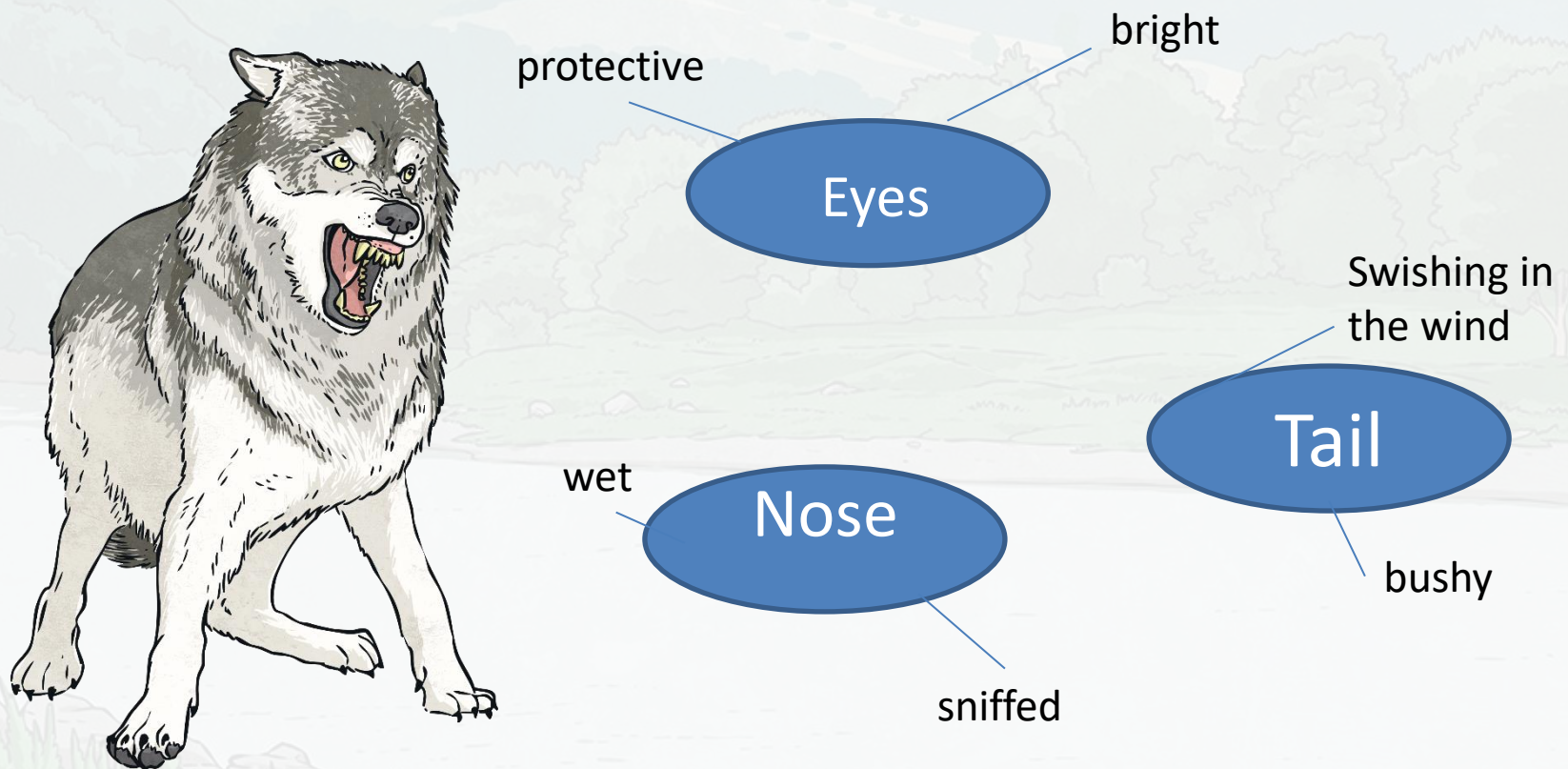
legs

eyes

jaws

teeth

Now jot down as many adjectives, verbs and descriptive phrases that spring to mind as you look at this image about each of the nouns.



Activity 4

- Using the nouns from yesterday you will write a spine poem. It is up to you how many you would like to use.
- Remember to write each noun in blue down the middle of your page and work around the nouns with the great description.
- I have written a model to help if you need too. I only used four nouns.

The Mysterious Wolf

Slowly walking the wolf stood silently like a frozen statue.

Twinkling eyes desperately searching through the crisp snow, clearly looking for its prey.

Without a sound, her strong jaw pointed towards the buried pathway opening widely like a deep valley.

Her thick coat of grey fur spotting tiny babies floating on the frozen lake.

**Please send your poems
to your class teachers.
We would really love to
see them.**



Activity 5

Today is a free day to write a free poem using your knowledge of poetry writing about any of the characters from the story of Romulus and Remus.

- Spine poem
- Acrostic poem
- Rhyming poem
- Alliteration poem
- Or a poem type of your choice.

Please send your great poems to your class teacher, we would love to see your work.



Alliteration

A few words, one after the other, that begin with the same sound.

E.g. Bees buzzed brilliantly by the beautiful butterfly.

Rhyme

A rhyme happens when words share the same end sound pattern.

E.g. Words that rhyme with dog

fog log jog cog hog

Simile

A comparison using the words 'as' or 'like'.

E.g.

sly as a fox

sweet like chocolate

white as snow

cold as ice

Calligram

A visual representation of a word, or poem, that reflect the meaning.

E.g.

wobble

soft clouds

curly