

Primary History: Romans

Extension Activity - Roman Defence of Britain

What do you think life was like on the northern frontier of Roman Britain? Find out more about life for a Roman soldier on Hadrian's Wall? Look for useful information to help you by reading fiction (stories that modern authors have written) as well as finding facts in history books. For example, soldiers (like all Romans) used sponges on sticks as toilet paper.

Find out how comfortable the forts were.

- **Did they all have baths and shops nearby, or were some remote and uncomfortable to live in?**
- **Which parts of the world did the soldiers come from before they arrived in the cold north of Britain?**
- **How did local people and soldiers get on?**
- **What kind of things did soldiers write home asking for?**

If you look on a modern map, you can still see some of the remains of Roman roads today. Some have names. See if you can find out about these:

Watling Street Fosse Way Ermine Street

How do Roman roads compare with modern roads and motorways?

Why did people go on using Roman roads for hundreds of years?

Roman forts had the same sorts of buildings inside them. **Can you think what buildings you would need inside a fort?** Look at some pictures of real Roman forts in the photos section and then plan your own. Do you think you can design a better fort than the Roman army could?