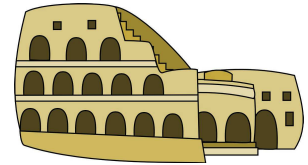


The Founding of Rome: Legend or Factual?



Story 1

There was once a pair of twin brothers called Romulus and Remus. Their mother was Rhea Silvia, the daughter of King Numitor, and their father was Mars, the God of War. King Numitor had a brother, Amulius, who wanted to be king so much that he took the throne for himself.

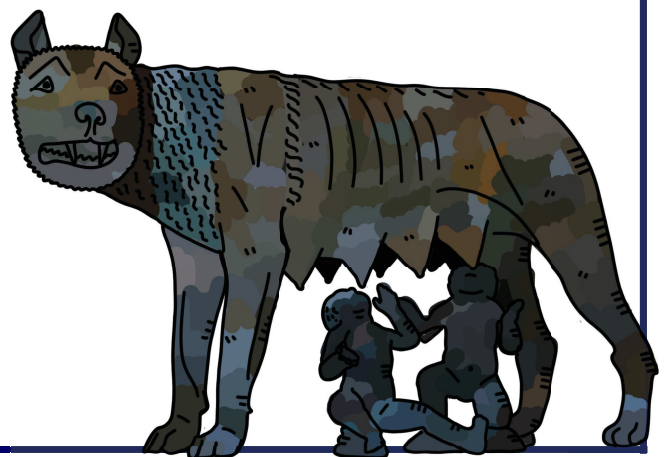
When Romulus and Remus were born to Rhea Silvia, Amulius was shocked and very angry at the thought that one of the boys may become king. In his rage, he put the twin boys into a basket and threw them into the river Tiber. He wanted nothing more to do with them.

However, after the two boys had floated down the river in their basket, they were rescued by a mother wolf. She cared for the boys as if they were her own wolf babies and she fed them with her own milk.

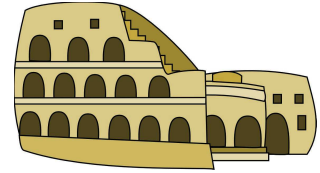
Once Romulus and Remus got bigger, they were taken home by a shepherd called Faustulus. He and his wife looked after them in his home until they were adults. One day, Romulus and Remus discovered who they really were and made a plan to kill Amulius and reclaim the throne for their own family by making their grandfather king.

Once they had carried out their plan, they decided to build a city of their own. The boys disagreed about which hill to build the city on, so they each began to build their own walled city.

One day, Remus paid Romulus a visit. Remus mocked Romulus's city and its low walls. Romulus became so infuriated that he killed Remus instantly, declaring that he would kill any person who ever made fun of his city, which he called Rome. He continued to build up his city and officially made himself king in 753 BC.

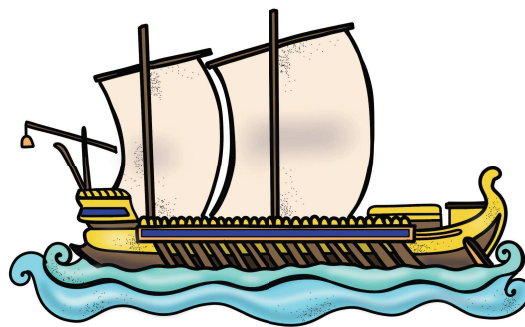


The Founding of Rome: Legend or Factual?



Story 2

There was once a tribe of people called Latins from the Plains of Latium, near where modern day Rome is. They lived in little villages on the hills and they were very skilled farmers and traders. They lived near the river Tiber and this was a very good place to trade with passing ships.



The people of the Latin tribe became so successful in their trades that they began to grow rich. They had more and more children so they needed to build more huts to live in. The villages grew and they built up the areas around their houses to provide for the community and a wall around the edge to protect it.



The settlement became so large that it became a city in 753 BC and was ruled by kings. The city spread across seven hills and became known as Rome.