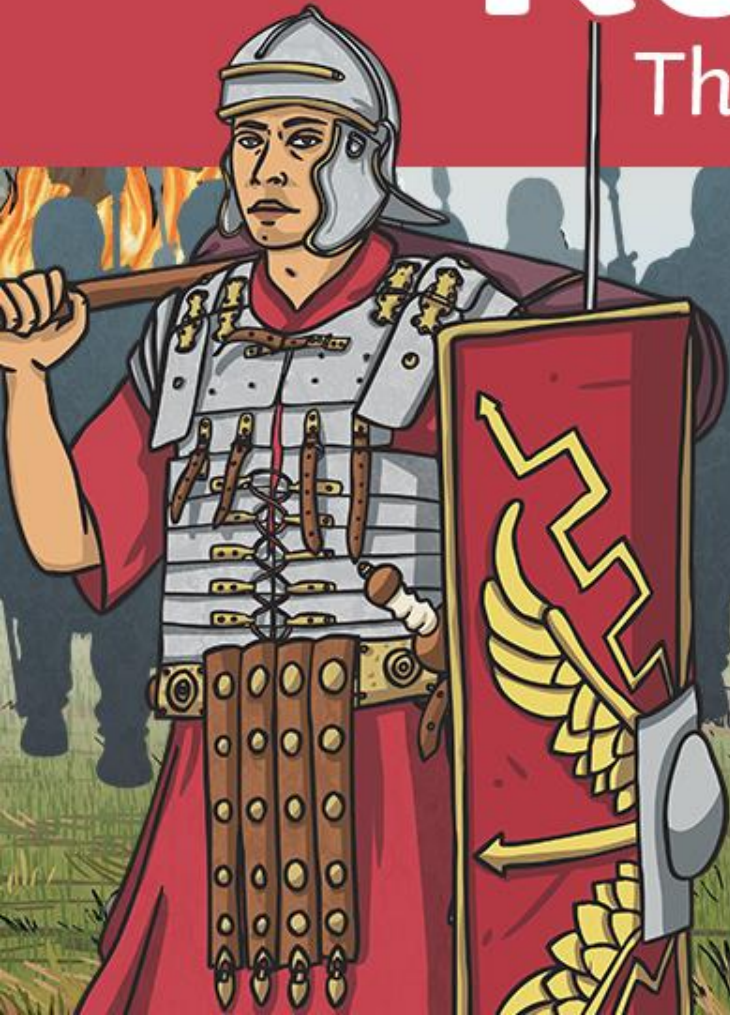


Romans

The Invasions



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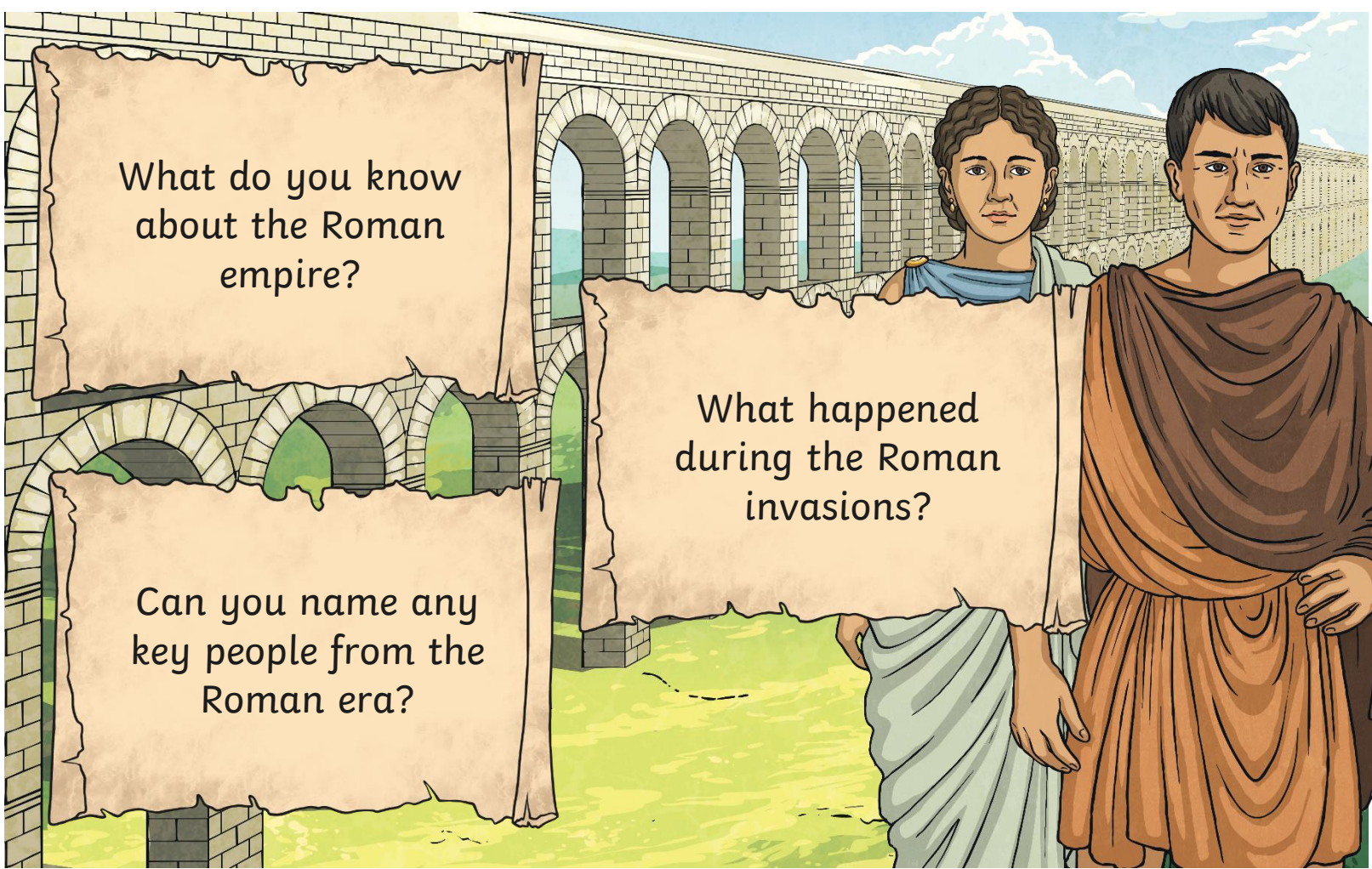
Aim

- I can explain the spread of the Roman empire and recall key facts about the invasion of Britain.

Success Criteria

- I can answer comprehension questions to show I understand when and how the Romans conquered Britain.
- I can create a poster or timeline to show how the Roman empire spread from 800 BC to AD 305.

What Do You Know?

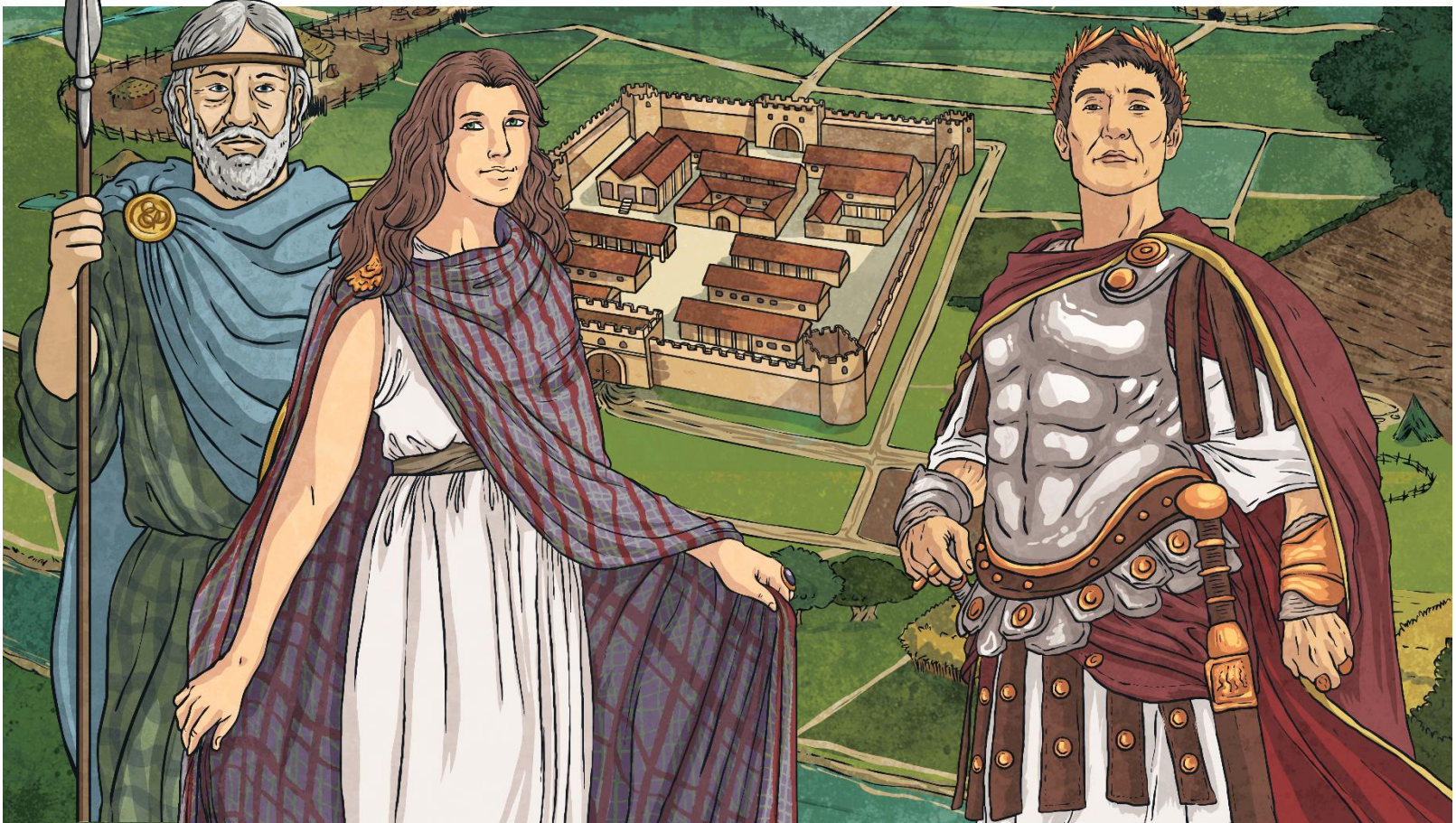
An illustration of a Roman aqueduct with multiple arches. Three people are standing in front of it: a woman in a blue and white dress on the left, a man in a brown and orange robe in the center, and another man in a brown and orange robe on the right. They are holding three large, torn scrolls. The background shows a blue sky with clouds and green grass.

What do you know
about the Roman
empire?

What happened
during the Roman
invasions?

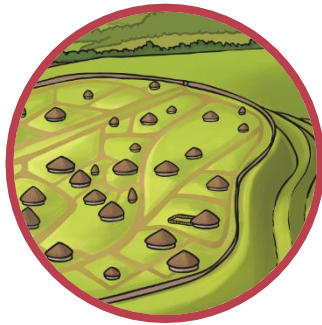
Can you name any
key people from the
Roman era?

What Would You Like to Find Out?



What Do You Know?

In 55 BC, the Romans already ruled the country that we know today as France. The Romans called it Gallia and were just across the English Channel.



Britain



English Channel



55 BC: The First Raid



The Roman General Julius Caesar came across the sea to Britain. He wanted to make Britain a part of the Roman empire. He brought with him two Roman legions.

Roman legions – There were around 5000 soldiers in a Roman army legion.

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Romans returned to France, despite winning several battles.



54 BC: The Second Raid



One year later, Julius Caesar came back across the sea. This time he brought with him five legions and

2000 ~~cavalrymen~~

cavalrymen – Soldiers on horseback.



X

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left in
Britain
he had

other problems in the empire to deal with. The Celts opened up trading links with the Romans.

AD 43: The Third Attempt



Nearly one hundred years later, the Romans returned. Emperor Claudius was now in charge and he was determined to make Britain part of the Roman empire. He sent General Aulus Plautius and four legions of soldiers, plus about the same number of **auxiliary soldiers**. They

Auxiliary soldiers – People recruited from non-Roman tribes to reinforce the army or provide a specific skill. The Latin word 'auxilium' means 'help'.

x legions. ?

They agreed to obey Roman laws and pay taxes. In return, they were allowed to keep their kingdoms.

Invasion Questions

Use your notes and the information provided on your activity sheet to answer the invasion questions.

The Roman Invasion of Britain

55 BC

In 55 BC, it was mainly Celts that lived in Britain. The Roman army had been fighting in France (then part of Gaul, or Gallia in Latin) and the Celts in Britain had been helping the Gauls as they fought against the Romans. Julius Caesar was the leader of the army in Roman Gaul. He was angry with the Celts for helping the Gauls so he took some of the Roman army across to Britain to teach them a lesson.



Two legions of Roman soldiers crossed the English Channel and landed in Kent. Caesar wanted to land at Dover, but lots of Celts were waiting there so they changed the plan. The Celts followed the Romans to their landing place and a battle took place on the beach. The Romans, who were used to fighting on dry land, were forced to fight in the water because the Celts charged down the beach.

Despite the efforts of the Celts, the Romans managed to win a few battles. However, Julius Caesar realised that the Celts were not going to give up without a fight and went back to Gaul.

54 BC

The following year, 54 BC, Julius Caesar made another summer trip to Britain. This time he had five legions and 2000 cavalrymen. The Celts were not ready for them.

Britain at that time had many kings or chieftains ruling lots of different tribes so they weren't fighting together as one country. The Roman army fought one tribe at a time, reaching and crossing the river Thames.

Some tribes decided to seek a peaceful solution and agreed to pay tributes to Rome rather than fighting them.

Before he was able to go any further, Caesar had to leave Britain with his army to go and fight in Gaul.

The Romans hadn't totally disappeared though. The Roman traders saw a good opportunity for trade with the local tribes, and many goods were bought and sold, making their way across the Roman empire to and from Britain.



The Roman Invasion of Britain

43

As the real deal this time, Emperor Claudius was in charge and he was looking for a way of impressing the Romans to make his position stronger. He wanted to conquer Britain and extend the Roman empire.

Many people also believe that the Romans invaded Britain because they needed resources, such as slaves, metals and land to help build the Roman empire.

Emperor Claudius sent General Aulus Plautius and four legions of soldiers, plus about the same number of auxiliary soldiers, to Britain. They were split into three divisions.

Two divisions landed in the south-east again. The first division marched west through the south. The second division marched north-west towards north Wales and the third marched north towards

Yorkshire. The first division captured the hill fort of Hod Hill and set up their camp. Evidence of a particularly gruesome battle in the south can still be seen in the war cemetery at Maiden Castle, where the remains of an enemy remain.

The Celts had tried to defend themselves and the fort by bringing up thousands of stones from the beach and using slingshots, but this was no match for the Roman army. This southern division, led by Vespasian (later to become an Emperor of Rome), defeated tribes all the way to the north.

Some Celtic tribes realised how strong this Roman army was and their chieftains or kings made peace to keep the peace. They agreed to obey Roman laws and pay taxes. In return, they were allowed to keep their kingdoms. These were known as 'client kingdoms'.

Another common Roman tactic to take over without using force so that they could concentrate on the power of the army on the tribes or kingdoms still resisting.

Emperor Claudius travelled to Britain the following summer, by which time many chieftains had submitted to Roman rule.

The Roman army was incredibly strong, but the Celts were also very skilled and brave warriors. Fighting continued for many years.

The Romans were still fighting in Yorkshire and other parts of northern Britain forty years later. They never actually gained full control of Britain although they were still there almost 400 years after the invasion.

The Roman Invasion of Britain

can explain the spread of the Roman empire and recall key facts about the invasion of Britain.

Questions

1C

Who was living in Britain in 55 BC?

Who was the leader of the Roman army in Gaul?

Why didn't the Romans land at Dover as they had planned?

When the Roman army landed, what did the soldiers have to cope with that they weren't used to?

2C

How many Roman legions were sent over in 54 BC?

What was it about Britain at that time that made it easier for the Romans to fight?

What was the peaceful solution on offer to the tribes?

What was the good thing about the invasion in 54 BC?

3C

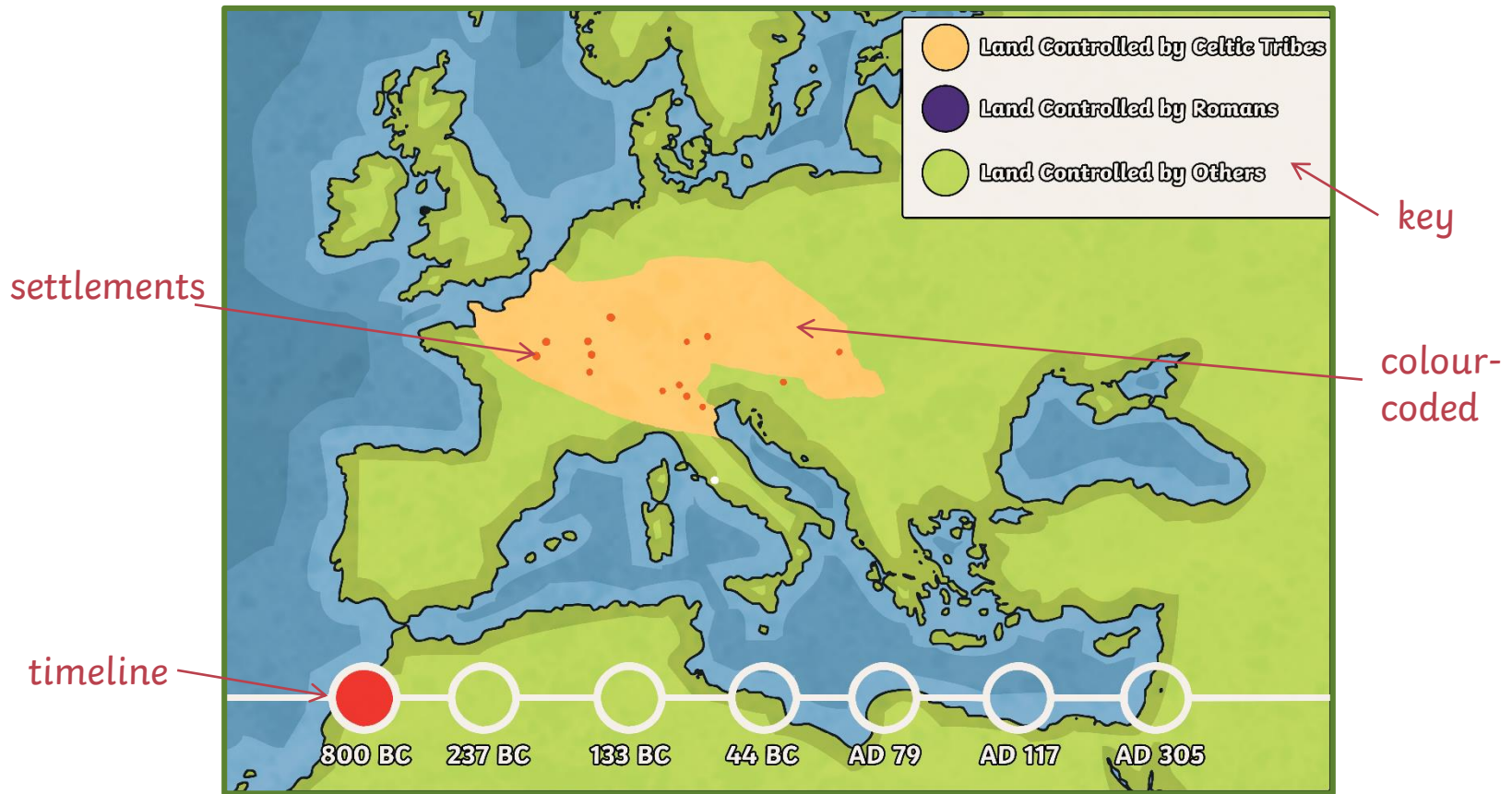
Why did Emperor Claudius want to invade Britain?

Where did the Roman soldiers set up camp in the south?

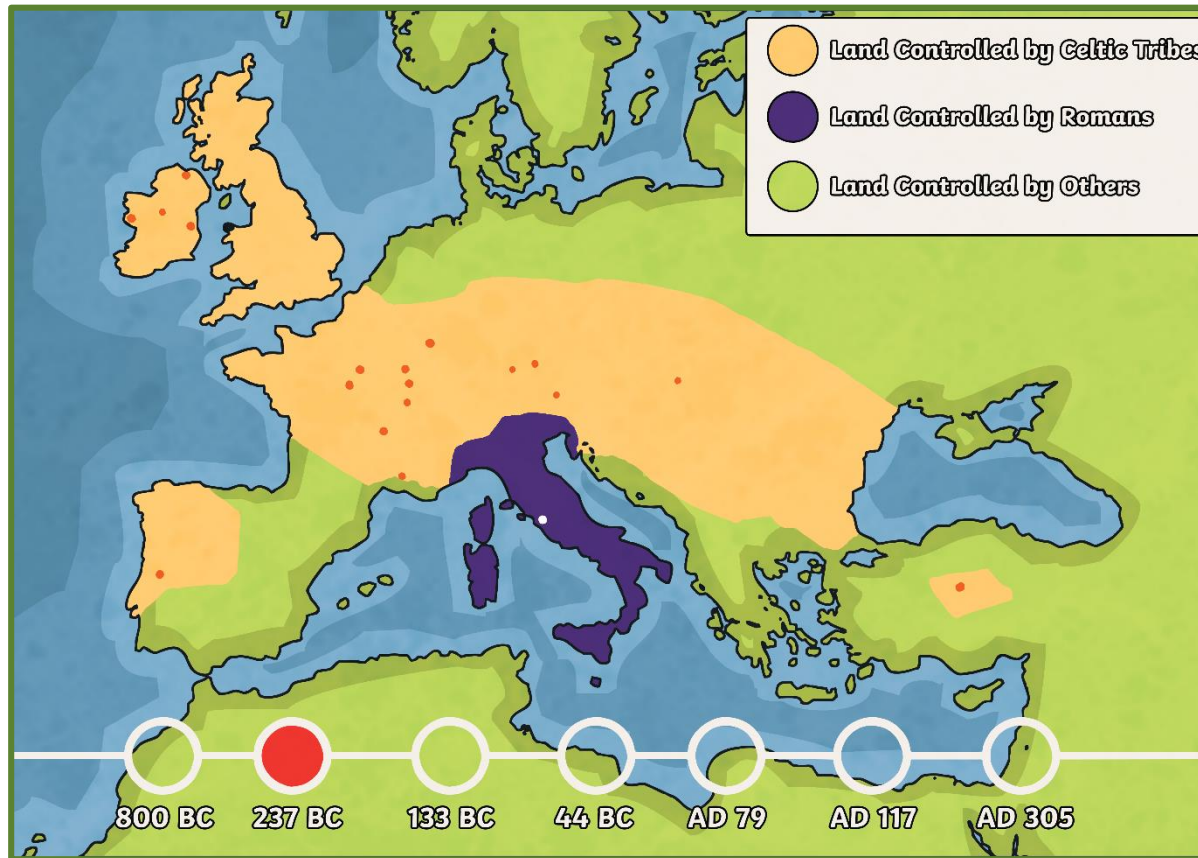
What evidence is there of a fierce battle at Maiden Castle?

Spread of the Roman Empire

What features do you notice on this map?
What can you say about who owned land in 800 BC?



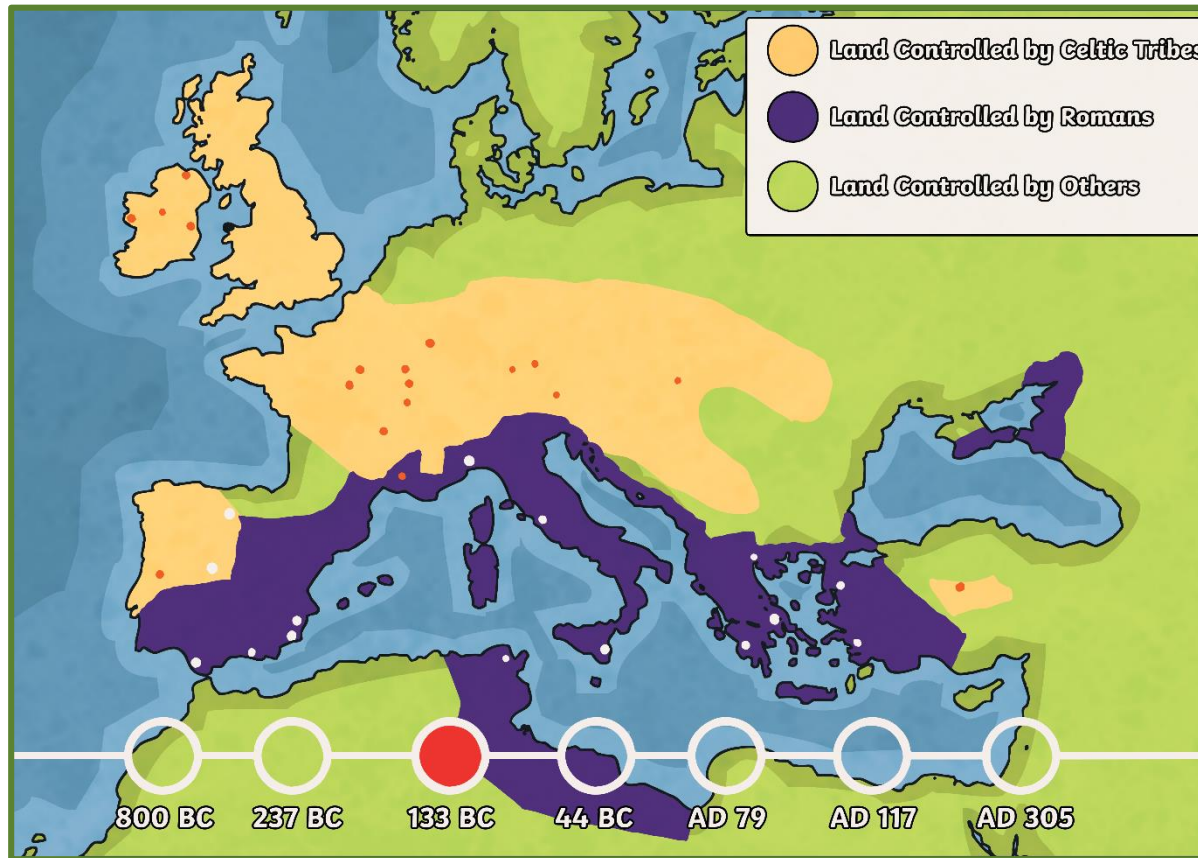
Spread of the Roman Empire



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What do we notice now in 237 BC?

Spread of the Roman Empire

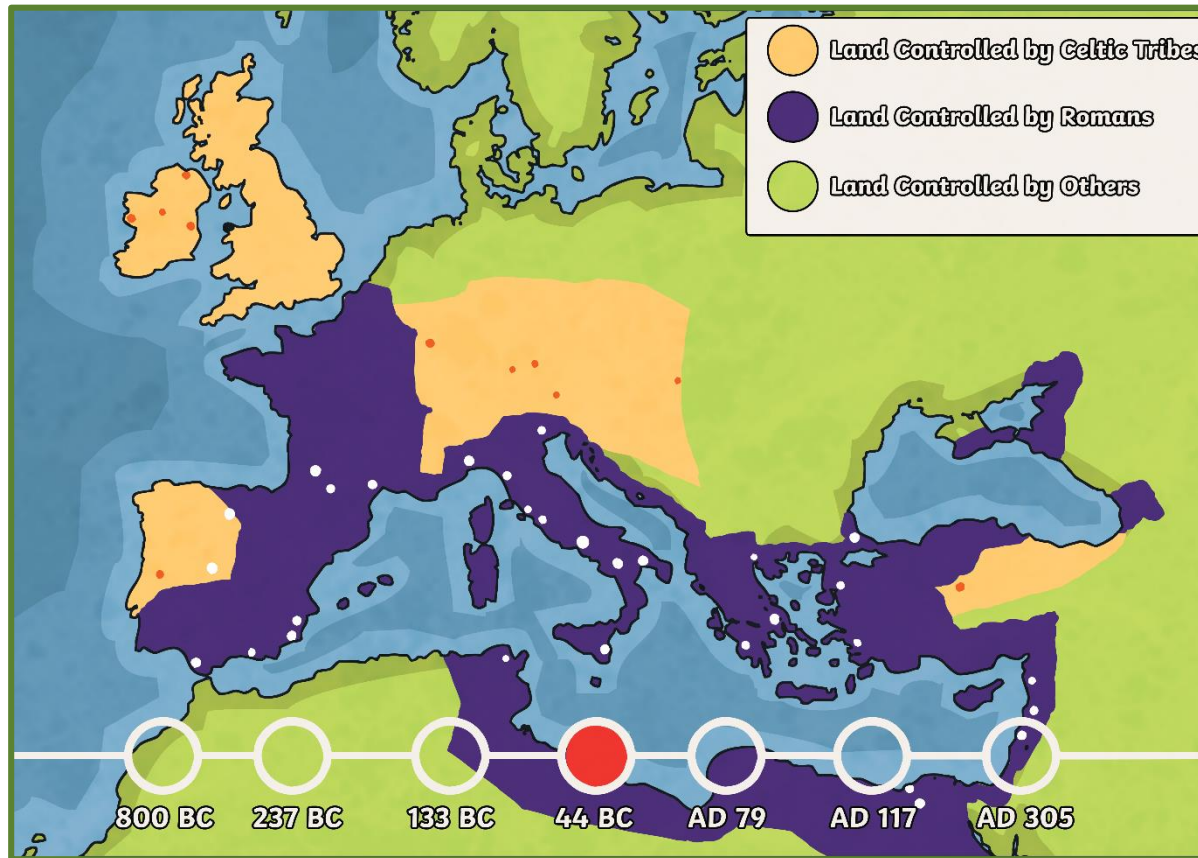


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What has changed by 133 BC?

Spread of the Roman Empire

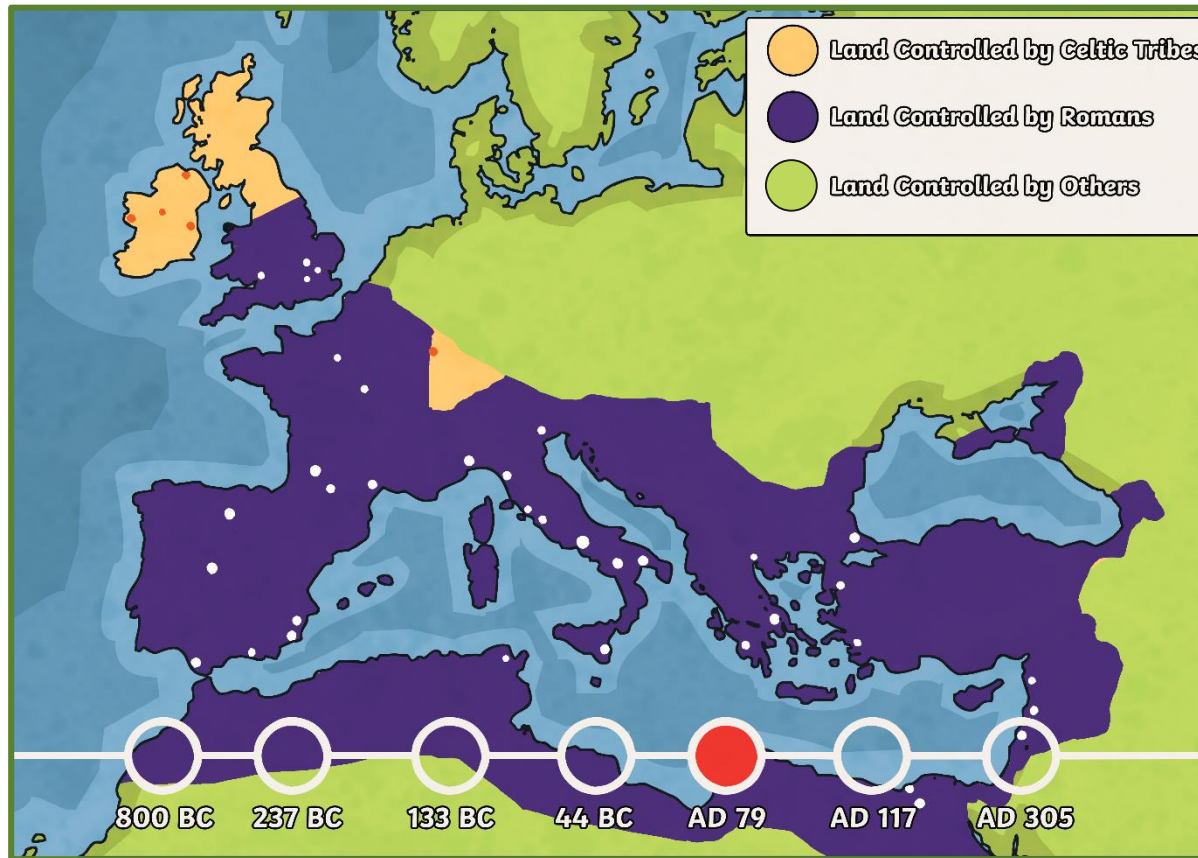
Whole Class



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What do you think is most significant about this map?

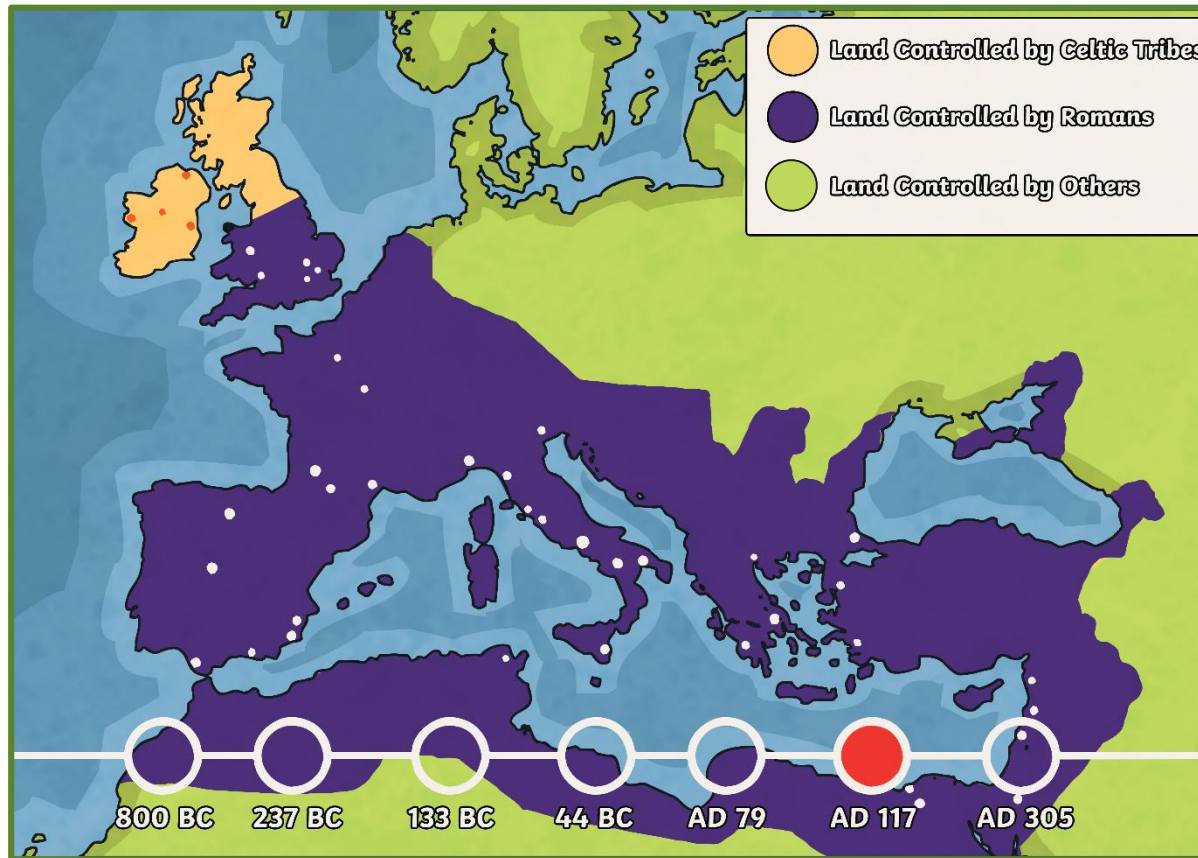
Spread of the Roman Empire



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What can we say about the Celts in AD 79?

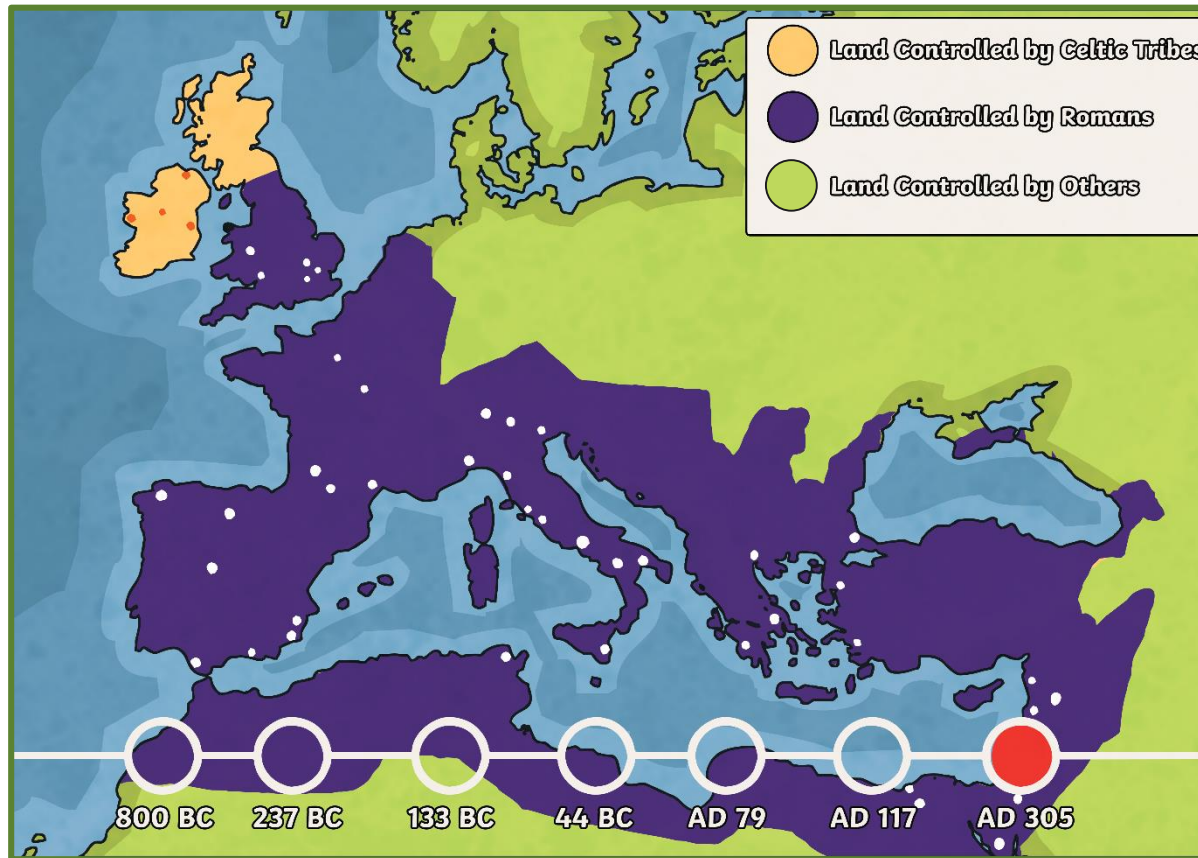
Spread of the Roman Empire



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What can we say about the Celts in AD 117?

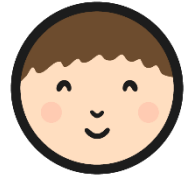
Spread of the Roman Empire



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Where in the UK are the most important Roman cities?

Spread of the Roman Empire



Your challenge is to create a poster or timeline showing the spread of the Roman empire.

Use the following key dates: 800 BC, 237 BC, 133 BC, 44 BC, AD 79, AD 305.

Use the **Roman Empire Maps Activity Sheet** and maps or atlases to help you work out which countries were taken over by the Romans.

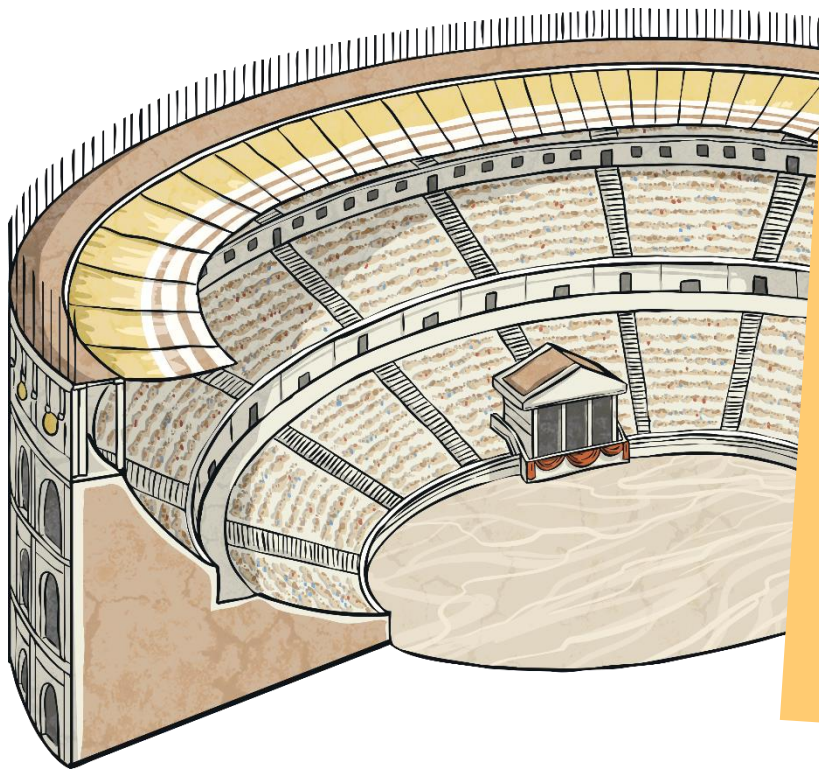
You can use writing, maps, pictures or a combination of the three to present your work.



What Have You Learned?



What is the most interesting fact you have learned in this lesson?
Write it on your sticky note.



Does it answer any of the questions that we generated about our Romans topic at the beginning of the lesson?



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