Who Were the Romans?

The Romans originated in the city of Rome in modern-day Italy. However, the Romans ruled countries across the globe - including Great Britain - which was called the Roman Empire.

The Empire had a huge effect on the language, culture and history of countries in Europe, the Middle East and even Northern Africa. Ancient Rome had a huge impact on many areas of contemporary life, such as engineering and government, and they ruled for nearly 1000 years.

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Why did the Romans invade Britain?

Over 2,000 years ago, the Romans first arrived in Britain. Although that was way back in the past, many clues still survive which tell us what life was like during Roman times.

Thanks to a book written all those years ago by the famous Roman commander, Julius Caesar, we also know one reason why the Romans wanted to come to Britain in the first place - they wanted to make use of the amazing natural resources to be found here.

Caesar wrote, "*The Britons have a huge number of cattle, they use gold coins or iron bars as their money, and produce tin and iron.*" That description helps to explain why Caesar and his army decided to pile over here to Britain to try to invade. Rome wanted to get its hand on all those British resources to make itself even richer.

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