

ROMAN PRODUCTS

FIND OUT ABOUT SOME ROMAN ARTEFACTS THAT WE MAY STILL USE TODAY

Introduction activity

Ask the class to name as many kitchen devices as they can that are used in a modern kitchen.

Does the class think that there were devices such as these in the Roman kitchen?

Watch the 'Mortarium mixing bowl' video clip. Discuss whether we use a similar type of product nowadays.

We do have something called a mortar used with a pestle to grind spices etc.

Main part of the lesson

Ask the class to open up the Transport, trade and industry resources on the Romans in London site.

Explain that there are some objects that were produced in Roman Britain for sale to households.

Explain that in this lesson you would like them to open up the 'Roman products resource' that you have saved into a shared area and working in pairs they will investigate these five products.

Explain that you want the class to be like real archaeologists and to use the artefact (an image anyway) to find out some information.

Discuss how it is not always possible to be certain what artefacts are and what they were used for. Archaeologists can only draw conclusions and ideas from what is already known. In this activity pupils are to imagine that they are archaeologists who have found this object in a dig and are drawing their own conclusions about its use, material and its modern equivalent.

Once they have discussed in pairs what they think the product is, they can add this information into the resource adding into the last column on the resource their idea of what we have in our modern-day kitchen that is equivalent to these Roman products.

Plenary

As a class, look at the 'Bakers making bread' image. Here we can see many products that were made in Roman Britain and used in households.

Can the pupils spot the products and also think about their modern equivalents?



In the 'Mortarium' video it was mentioned that these vessels would have been made in kilns along the road between London and St Albans.

Use the 'Roman roads resource' to discuss the main routes and roads in Roman Britain and thus the trade routes around the country.