

## VIII ROMAN GODS AND GODDESSES

### MOTIVATION TASK: Brainstorming A B C Brainstorm

Roman gods and goddesses

A \_\_\_\_\_

O \_\_\_\_\_

B \_\_\_\_\_

P \_\_\_\_\_

C \_\_\_\_\_

Q \_\_\_\_\_

D \_\_\_\_\_

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E \_\_\_\_\_

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M \_\_\_\_\_

N \_\_\_\_\_

**Visit this site and hear a legend:**

[http://myths.e2bn.org/mythsandlegends/view\\_myth.php?id=9](http://myths.e2bn.org/mythsandlegends/view_myth.php?id=9)

(The legend of the fens)

**History creator:** <http://myths.e2bn.org/create/tool527-story-creator-2.html>

## ROMAN RELIGION

The ancient Romans believed in gods and goddesses. They had gods for almost everything. There were temples all over the Roman Empire where people worshipped the gods in temples. They were usually in the Forum, and people made sacrifices of animals and gave precious things there. The ancient Romans brought offerings of meat and other objects to the temples. Every home had a family god. Most ancient Romans had a small grand, separate room, god. Honouring their ancient Romans daily display or even a to honour the family gods was part of life.



Not all of the gods Romans were originally Romans travelled a lot expanded. When the god or a goddess from conquered, if they liked them they adopted and incorporated them. When Romans heard about the Greek deities, they adopted them all. The Romans changed many of the Greek god names to Roman names. Zeus became Jupiter or Hera was named Juno. But the Romans left their features intact as well as their position. Roman also worshipped their Emperors.

worshipped by ancient Roman gods. The while their empire Romans heard about a the people that they worshipped by ancient Roman gods. The while their empire Romans heard about a the people that they

Romulus and Remus didn't exist in Greek mythology, they were a Roman contribution. Roman believed the gods were all part of a family and there were stories or myths about them. Each god or goddess had a different role.



1. Temple remains in Rome.



2. Vesta's temple in Rome.

**1. Letter tiles. Two sets of paper tiles will be handed to you by your teacher. In pairs unscramble the tiles to reveal two messages.**

G S	A	I S	N V E N	E X P L	T E D	D S	A
H I C H	Y	O F	T O	A I N	P I R I	T H I N	
N D	S	T S	W T	G O	L D	A B O U	A N I
T O L D	T H E	S T O R	W O R	B O U T	T E N		

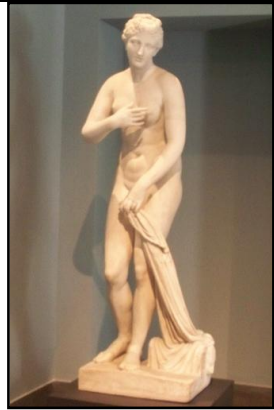
a) Myth:

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PLES	ERS	WOR	GOD	SHIP	E TH
AN H	BELI	POW	MANY	PED	A BE
UMAN	IENT	(ANC	MOR		

b) God:

**2. Answer the following Wh- questions:**

- 1) Why did Romans believe in lots of gods? \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) Where did Romans worship their gods? \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) Where did Roman people venerate their family gods? \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) Who did Romans worship apart from proper gods? \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) Which gods didn't exist in Greek Mythology? \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Roman gods</b>	
<p><b>Saturn:</b> he was an ancient god, who was once the ruler, but his place was taken by his son Jupiter.</p> <p><b>Jupiter:</b> the god of the sky, he was the king of gods. He was the god of thunder and lighting.</p> <p><b>Juno:</b> Jupiter's wife, who looked after women. The most important goddess in the Roman state.</p> <p><b>Neptune:</b> Jupiter's brother. He was the god of the sea.</p> <p><b>Minerva:</b> the goddess of wisdom and women's work, such as weaving cloth. She also was the goddess of war.</p> <p><b>Mars:</b> the god of war. The month of march is named after him.</p> <p><b>Venus:</b> the goddess of love and beauty. She was the lover of Mars.</p>	

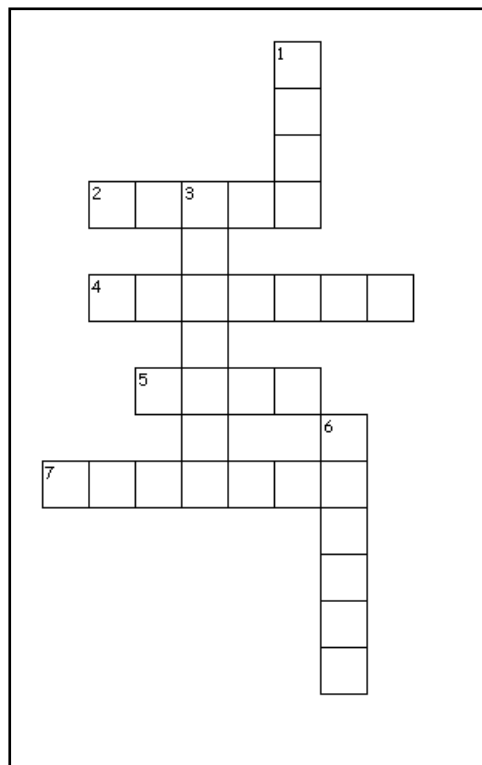
**3. Match the definitions in the first column to the god in the second column.**

1) The Roman sky god and most powerful of all Roman deities	_____ Ceres
2) Goddess protector of women	_____ Jupiter
3) Goddess of agriculture	_____ Venus
4) The Roman goddess of love	_____ Neptune
5) God of the sea and father of Cyclops	_____ Juno
6) The goddess of war and wisdom	_____ Saturn
7) A very ancient god. His place was taken by his son.	_____ Minerva

4. In pairs, search the internet the Greek names of the following Roman gods and write them in the grid. Add their attributes and their main activities.

Greek gods	Roman gods	Gods' attributes	Activities
Cronus or Kronos	<b>Saturn</b>		
	<b>Jupiter</b>		
	<b>Juno</b>		
	<b>Neptune</b>		
Aphrodite	<b>Venus</b>		
	<b>Minerva</b>	owl	
	<b>Mars</b>		war

5. Criss-cross puzzle:



**Across**

2. The goddess of love, who was the lover of Mars. 4. The god of the sky, he was the king of gods in Rome.

5. Jupiter's wife, who looked after women. She was the most important goddess in the Roman state. 7. The goddess of wisdom and women's work, such as crafts.

**Down**

1. The god of war. The month of March is named after him.3. Jupiter's brother, who was the god of the sea.6. He was an ancient god, who was once the ruler, but his place was taken by his son Jupiter.

**6. THE ROMAN CALENDAR<sup>1</sup>** (adapted from Teaching ideas)

Here are the names of the Roman months. Write the English and your language months in the spaces next to them.

LATIN	ENGLISH	YOUR LANGUAGE
Januarius		
Februarius		
Martialis		
Aprilis		
Maius		
Junius		
Julius		
Augustus		
September		
October		
November		
December		

- Can you see which 2 months were named after famous Roman leaders?

\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

- Can you guess which four months were named after Roman gods? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

- Can you guess which four months were named after Roman numbers? \_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

<sup>1</sup> Today's calendar is based on the Roman one. Like us, Romans had 365 days and twelve months in a year, and a leap year every four years with 366 days.

**7. Can you write down the missing days of the week?**

<b>DAYS OF THE WEEK</b>			
<b>English</b>	<b>Meaning in English</b>	<b>Latin</b>	<b>translation</b>
	'Moon day'	dies Lunae	
	'the day of Mars'	dies Martis	
	'the day of Mercury'	dies Mercuris	
	'the day of Jupiter'	dies Iovis	
	'the day of Venus'	dies Veneris	
	'the day of Saturn'	dies Saturni	
	'Sun day'	dies Solis	

**8. The Roman calendar. Match each month with its origin.**

1. Ianuarius (January)	___ Earth Goddess Maia
2. Februarius (February)	___ Etruscan Goddess Aprilis
3. Martius (March)	___ 'The Seventh Month'
4. Aprilis (April)	<u>1</u> God Janus
5. Maius (May)	___ 'The Eighth Month'
6. Junius (June)	___ War God Mars
7. Julius (July)	___ Birth of Augustus Caesar - originally named Sextilis 'the Sixth Month'
8. Augustus (August)	___ Goddess Juno
9. September	___ 'The Ninth Month'
10. October	___ Birth of Julius Caesar - originally named Quintillis 'the Fifth Month'
11. November	___ The Tenth Month'
12. December	___ Februa festivals - the end of the ancient Roman year