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# Boudicca Drama Activity



## Introduction

Split children into 6 groups and give each group their character sheet. Children read the sheet, discuss their character and write down two more facts of their choice. They need to prepare to introduce themselves in character.

Regroup the children into groups of 6 - one of each character. Each character introduces themselves to the rest of the group and explains who they are.

## Main Activity

Discuss: What problems do you think there might be? Why? Who is most likely to cause problems? Who is least likely to cause problems? Why?

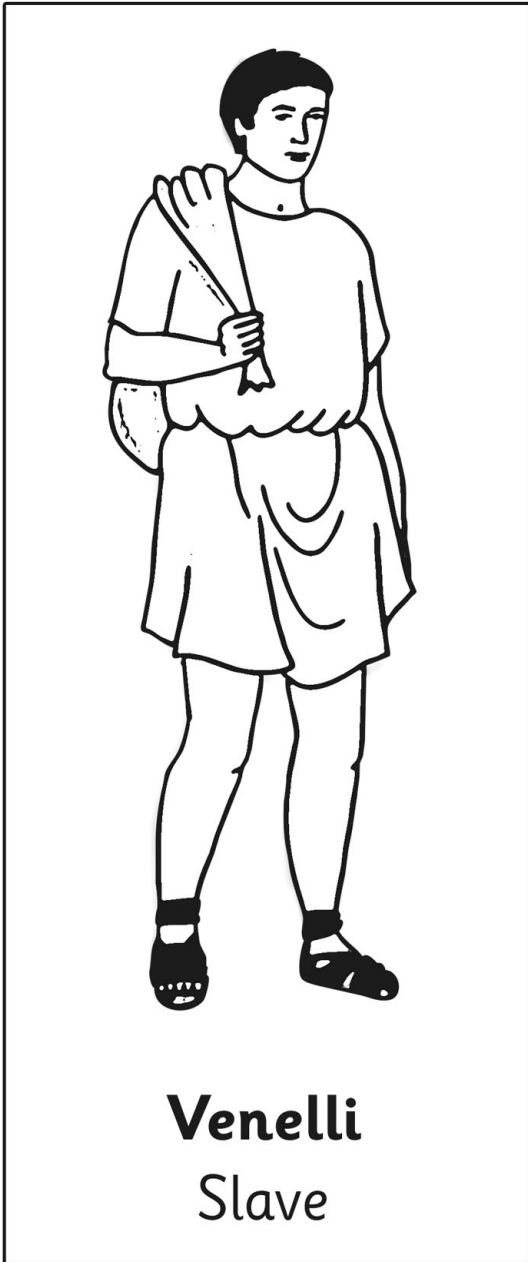
## What Happened Next?

Read out one event at a time. For each event, children stay in character in their mixed groups and explain how the event has affected them, what they are going to do and how they feel about it. Children listen to the different perspectives of the same story. They can ask questions of each other and try to justify their actions.

## Plenary

Ask 6 children (one in the role of each character) to stand up and explain to the class their life/role before, during and after 'Boudicca's Rebellion'. Do you think Boudicca was right to do what she did?

# What would it be like to be a Roman Slave?



## A bit about your character:

- Venelli was captured in a battle in Gaul. He now lives in Colchester.
- He belongs to the Roman Governor, Tiber. He is his property.
- He spends all day doing manual labour, it is hard work.
- He would like to escape and go back to Gaul but if he gets caught he will be killed.

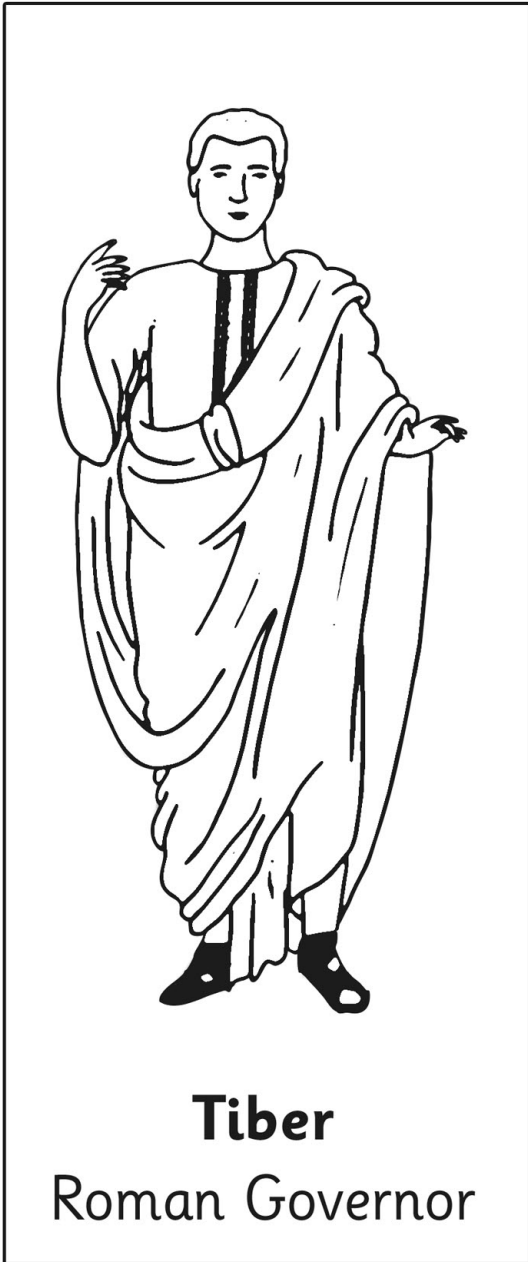
## Discuss:

How might he feel about being a slave?  
How do you think he feels about the Romans? Why?  
How do you think he feels about the Celts? Why?

## Make up two more facts about your character:

- \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

# What would it be like to be a Roman Governor?



## A bit about your character:

- Tiber was a great soldier and a general before he was made Governor.
- The Emperor sent him to rule over Roman Britain.
- He is very loyal to the Emperor and the Roman Empire.
- He was born in Rome and now lives in Colchester, the new Roman town.

## Discuss:

Do you think he likes being in Britain? Why  
How do you think he feels about the Celts? Why?  
Do you think he enjoys being in charge? Why?

## Make up two more facts about your character:

- \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

# What would it be like to be a Roman Trader?



## A bit about your character:

- Rastus is from Rome.
- He travels around the Roman Empire selling his wine and olive oil.
- He likes selling to rich Celts as well as Romans.

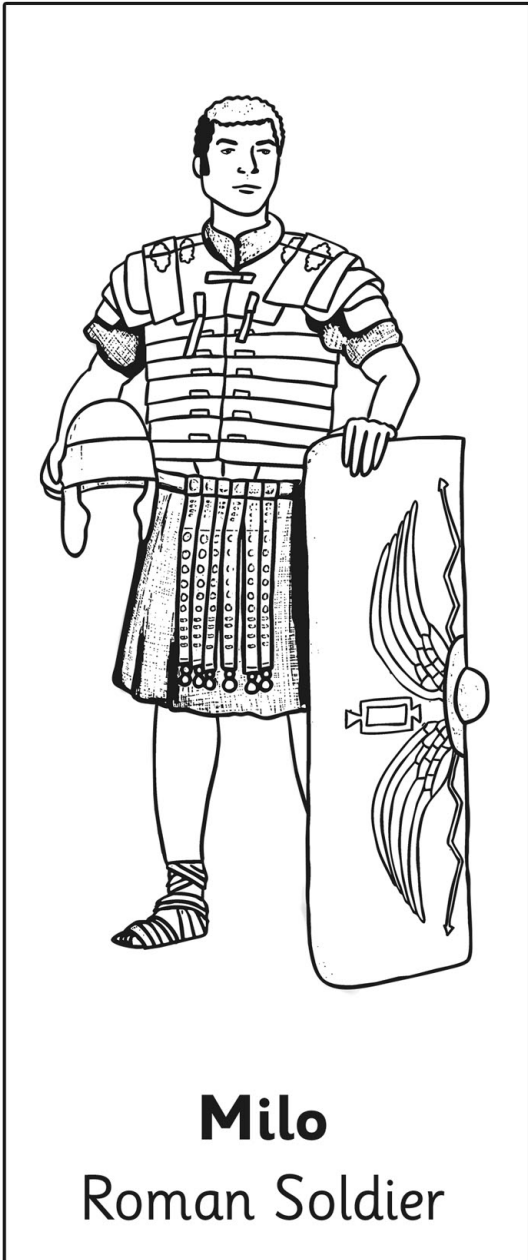
## Discuss:

Do you think he likes being in Britain? Why  
How do you think he feels about the Celts? Why?  
How does the Roman Empire help him do his job? What would be the  
problems if the Roman Empire lost control?  
Think about safety, currency and travel.

## Make up two more facts about your character:

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

# What would it be like to be a Roman Soldier?



## A bit about your character:

- Milo is a legionary.
- He was born in Rome.
- Milo hasn't done much fighting yet apart from in training.
- He has been warned that the Celts are violent people but they seem quite friendly to him.

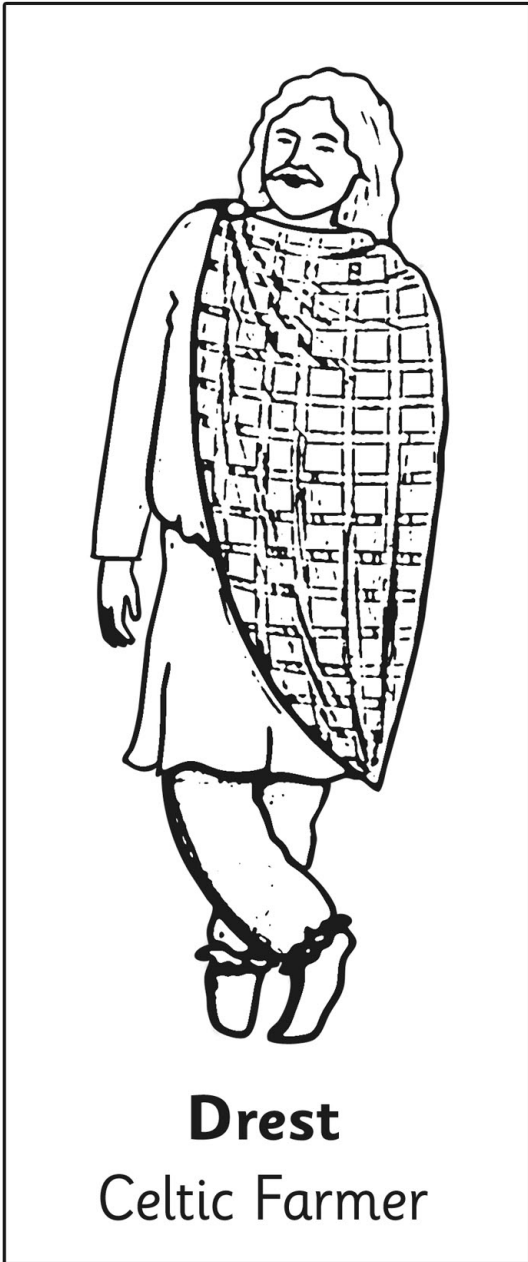
## Discuss:

How might he feel being so far from home?  
What might he have been doing so far in Britain?  
How do you think he feels about the Celts? Why?

## Make up two more facts about your character:

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

# What would it be like to be a Celtic Farmer?



## A bit about your character:

- Drest has lived in the same place with the Iceni tribe all his life, like his parents did.
- He works hard on his farm to grow crops and keep animals.
- He likes a peaceful life.
- He is loyal to the King and Queen of the Iceni tribe.

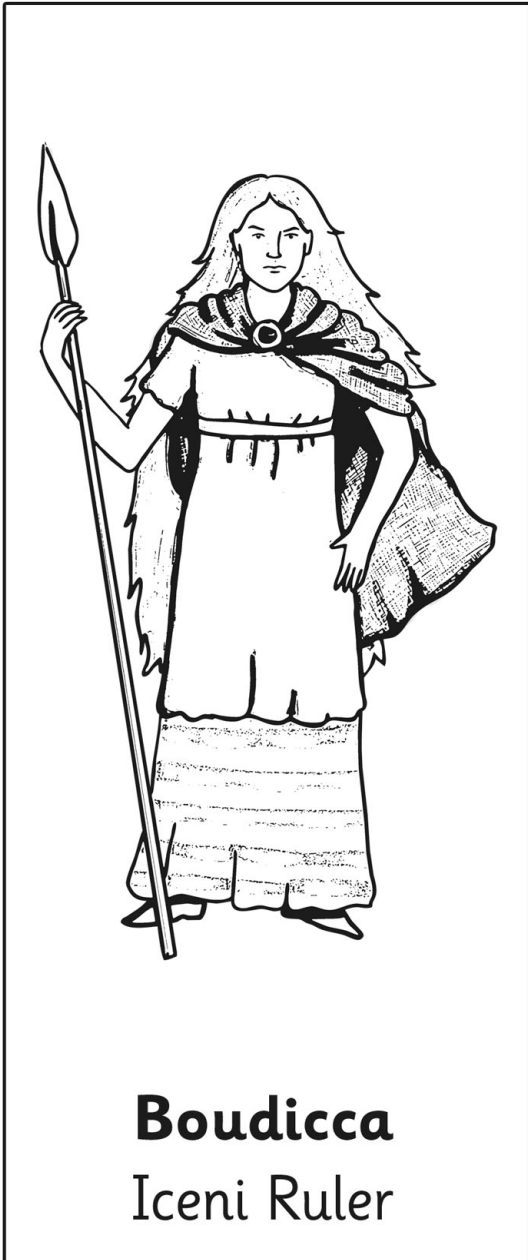
## Discuss:

What do you think Drest does with the crops that he grows?  
How do you think he feels about the Romans? Why?  
Do you think he would ever want to move?

## Make up two more facts about your character:

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

# What would it be like to be Boudicca?



## A bit about your character:

- With her husband, King Prasutagus, Boudicca rules over the Iceni Tribe.
- She lives in the South East of England.
- She is very rich.
- She has two daughters.
- Boudicca and the rest of the tribe have continued their Celtic life since the Romans arrived, there has been no fighting.
- She likes being able to buy things from the traders.

## Discuss:

How do you think Boudicca feels about the Romans?

Do you think she likes being a Queen?

What do you think she buys from the traders?

## Make up two more facts about your character:

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_



## What Happened Next?



### The Death of Prasutagus

Prasutagus dies. Boudicca is now ruling the Iceni tribe on her own. Tiber decides that the Iceni need to start paying taxes. When they refuse the Romans hurt Boudicca and her daughters. The Iceni tribe love their Queen and they are not happy about her being hurt or about having to pay taxes.

### The Destruction Begins

Tiber takes the Roman Army to Wales. Milo is about to experience his first proper fighting as the Romans attack Anglesey. Boudicca asks all the men in the Iceni tribe (including Drest) to form an army and with other tribes as well she marches down to the Roman town of Colchester. There is a battle and the town is destroyed as well as many people killed. She moves onto London and St Alban's and destroys those towns as well. Some of the people in London were warned to run, and Rastus manages to leave in time, but others were killed when the fighting started. Venelli escapes during the fighting and joins Boudicca's army to march North and fight the Romans.

### The Final Battle

Tiber brings the Roman Army back from Wales to fight Boudicca's army. There are ten times as many Celts and they are feeling confident. The Roman Army is very well trained in fighting though, and they win the battle. Many thousands of people die. The Roman Empire has survived.