

Mythology Assignment



In Roman mythology, Romulus and his twin brother Remus were the children of Rhea Silvia and Mars. Romulus and Remus are best known for being the founders of the city of Rome.

Your task: using the myth of Romulus and Remus, create a comic.

The myth is separated into 11 parts on the following page.

A large empty rectangular box with a thin border, intended for drawing a comic. At the bottom of the box, there are three horizontal lines for writing text.

- Your comic should portray a minimum of 6 slides, and a maximum of 9 slides.
- Your comic should have both a text along the bottom to describe the action taking place, as well as dialogue in the boxes.
- Your comic may be as simple as stick men, or they may be more realistic caricatures of the characters depicted.
- You may use colour if you would like, but it is not necessary.
- You have one class period to do this, do not over complicated it.

King Amulius imprisoned Rhea Silvia and ordered the twins' death by means of live burial, exposure, or being thrown into the Tiber River. He reasoned that if the twins were to die not by the sword but by the elements, he and his city would be saved from punishment by the gods.

He ordered a servant to carry out the death sentence, the servant takes pity on the twins, and spares their lives. The servant, then, places the twins into a basket onto the River Tiber, and the river carries the boys to safety.

The river god Tiberus ensured their safety by calming the river, and he caused their basket to catch in the roots of a nearby fig tree. The twins were first discovered by a she-wolf or lupa.

Eventually, they were discovered and cared for by a shepherd and his wife. The two boys grew up to be shepherds like their adoptive father.

One day while they were herding their sheep, they were met by shepherds of King Amulius. These shepherds started a fight with Romulus and Remus in which Remus was captured and taken before King Amulius.

Romulus gathered and incited a band of local shepherds to join him in rescuing his brother. King Amulius believed that Rhea Silvia's children were dead; he did not recognize Remus or Romulus. Romulus freed his brother, and in the process killed King Amulius.

After Amulius' death, the brothers rejected the citizens' offer of the crown of Alba Longa and instead reinstated Nimitor as king. They left Alba Longa seeking to found their own city, and each set out to find the best locale. The brothers quarrelled over the location of the foundation of their new city; Romulus wished to start the city on the Palatine Hill, while Remus wished to found it on the Aventine Hill.

In order to settle their disagreement, they agreed to consult augury; augury is a type of prophecy in which birds are examined and observed to determine what actions or persons the gods favour. Each brother prepared a sacred space on their respective hills and began to watch for birds.

Remus claimed to have seen six birds, while Romulus said he saw twelve birds. Romulus asserted that he was the clear winner by six birds, but Remus argued that since he saw his six birds first, he had won. The brothers remained at a standstill and continued to quarrel until Romulus began to dig trenches and build walls around his hill: the Palatine Hill.

In response to Romulus' construction, Remus made continuous fun of the wall and his brother's city. Remus was so bold as to jump over Romulus' wall jestingly. In response to Remus' mockeries and for jumping over his wall, Romulus, angered by his brother's belittlement, killed him. There are several versions as to how Remus was killed on the day Rome was founded.

Afterwards, Romulus mournfully buries his brother, bestowing upon him full funeral honours. Remus' death and founding of Rome are dated to April 21st, 753 BCE.