

# Teacher Notes

## Growing up in Ancient Rome

### Synopsis

*Julia introduces Felix and Augusta and we watch their lives on a typical Roman morning. Felix gets ready for school and they both go to the market.*

### Resources:

#### Comprehension:

Seven questions testing a variety of skills (retrieval, summarising, etc.) to check and reinforce learning from the animation.

#### Felix and Augusta:

Children contrast the expectations for Felix and Augusta in various areas of life, then contrast growing up in Rome to their own experiences.

#### Complete the Diaries:

Children complete diary entries for Felix and Augusta, imagining their feelings and including relevant historical details.

### Key questions to consider:

How was life different for children in Rome and children growing up today?

How was life different for boys and girls in Ancient Rome?

Did factors other than gender affect how people were treated in Ancient Rome?

Why do you think boys and girls were treated differently in Ancient Rome?

### History curriculum objectives:

- Note connections, contrasts and trends over time.
- Regularly address and sometimes devise historically valid questions about change, cause, similarity and difference, and significance.
- Construct informed responses that involve thoughtful selection and organisation of relevant historical information.
- NI: Some of the characteristics of past societies and distinctive features of life in the past.
- NI: How the world has changed over time.
- Welsh Progression step 3: I can describe how some different characteristics of communities and societies have changed, within and across periods of time.
- Welsh Progression step 3: I can describe and explain similarities and differences between people's lives both in the past and present.
- SOC 2-04a: I can compare and contrast a society in the past with my own and contribute to a discussion of the similarities and differences.

# Comprehension

What does Felix call his teacher?

What three foods were offered to the children at the *thermopolium*?

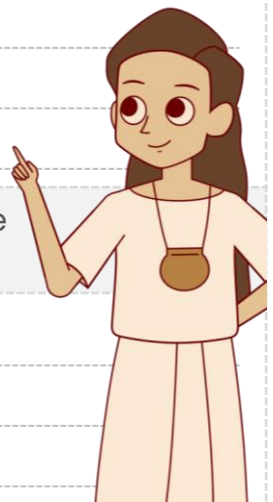
What would the daughter of a man named Julius have been called in Ancient Rome? Explain how you know.

Was it possible for some girls in Rome to get an education? Explain how you know, referring to the animation in your answer.

Give a summary of what Felix does at school.

Write down one thing Ancient Romans would have expected only women to do, and one thing they would have expected only men to do.

Was Roman life fair for everyone? Explain your answer with evidence from the animation.



# Comprehension

What does Felix call his teacher?

Grammaticus

What three foods were offered to the children at the *thermopolium*?

Figs, sea urchins and dormice

What would the daughter of a man named Julius have been called in Ancient Rome? Explain how you know.

Julia. The animation says that Augusta is named after her father, Augustus, and that all girls were named in this way. So, the daughter of Julius would take his name but with an 'a' at the end, instead of 'us': Julia.

Was it possible for some girls in Rome to get an education? Explain how you know, referring to the animation in your answer.

Yes, if their family was rich. Felix says: 'Dad can't afford for us both to go', which suggests Augusta could be educated if the family had enough money. The children also discuss a girl called Claudia who 'has her own tutor'.

Give a summary of what Felix does at school.

He practises public speaking and learns Greek, Latin and geometry. He also plays games such as *follis*.

Write down one thing Ancient Romans would have expected only women to do, and one thing they would have expected only men to do.

Various answers, for example: They would have expected women to weave cloth, and only men to be allowed in the senate.

Was Roman life fair for everyone? Explain your answer with evidence from the animation.

No. There were lots of slaves in the Roman Empire and they were told what to do and were often treated badly. Also, girls and boys had to do different things, even if they did not want to.



# Felix and Augusta



*“Life was quite different for boys and girls in Ancient Rome. Using what you saw in the animation, fill in what was expected or allowed for Felix and Augusta in relation to each area of life in the table below. After that, answer the question at the bottom.”*

Felix	Area of life	Augusta
	names	
	school	
	weaving	
	senate	
	army	
	games	

**Compare growing up today to growing up in Ancient Rome. What is similar and what is different?**

# Complete the Diaries



*"If Felix and Augusta wrote down their experiences and how they felt about them in diaries, what would you discover if you read them? Some imagined diary entries have been started for you below. Complete them using details from the animation and your own ideas of what the children would feel about their lives."*

## **Felix's diary**

4<sup>th</sup> day before the Ides of Aprilis

It was not a good day today. First, the grammaticus made us do public speaking and

when it was my turn, I...

Then, at lunch, the thermopolia had run out of...

I wish...

3<sup>rd</sup> day before the Ides of Aprilis

I saw Augusta Minor secretly practising rhetoric and public speaking today. I told

her...

Then Maximus came to see us and Gallio dropped garum on his toga. Maximus responded by...

I hope that tomorrow I can...

## Augusta Minor's diary

4<sup>th</sup> day before the Ides of Aprilis

Dad called me 'Augusta Major' again today. I really wish...

There were so many jobs today. I had to...

Sometimes, I think...

Lunch was good though. At the thermopolia, I took the last...

3<sup>rd</sup> day before the Ides of Aprilis

Today, I practised public speaking. I imagined I was in the senate and I...

Then Felix burst in and caught me! I felt...

Oh, and Gallio spilled garum on Maximus earlier. I...