

Romulus and Remus

*This legend tells the story of the baby twins **Romulus and Remus**. According to the legend, one of the twins eventually became the creator of Rome, the capital city of Italy.*

The twins were little princes, born of royal blood. After their birth, or so the story tells us, they were cast adrift on the River Tiber by their jealous uncle, who wanted kingship for himself. They were spotted and saved by a she-wolf, who looked after them, nursed and nuzzled them and kept them safe and warm until they were discovered by a shepherd. Although they were brought up as humble shepherds, the twins grew up to be natural leaders – strong, bold and with lots of followers. As adults, they found out they were actually princes.

Having discovered their true identity, they decided to create a new city for themselves. Unable to decide where to build their new city, they looked to the gods for signs. Romulus stood on one hill and Remus on another. A circle of birds flew over Romulus. Romulus took this as a signal from the gods that he should be king. Remus disagreed. They argued about which one of them was to rule the new city and give it his name. A terrible fight followed in which Romulus killed Remus. Romulus ruled the new city, named Rome in his honour.