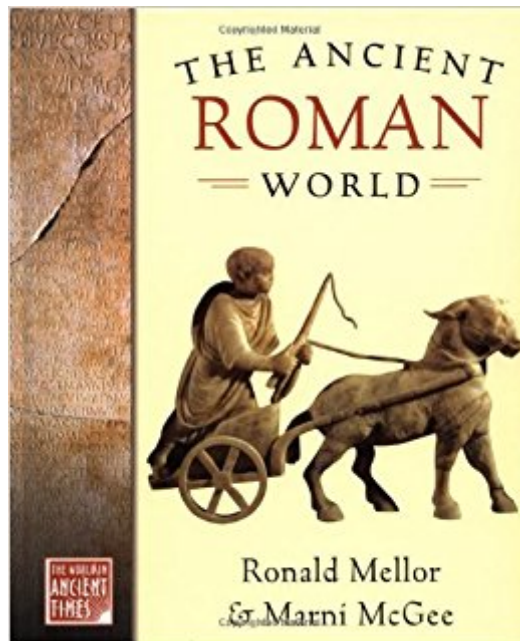




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The Ancient Roman World (The World In Ancient Times)



Synopsis

Beginning with the founding of Rome, each chapter features important figures- including Julius Caesar, Augustus, and Hadrian to discuss the evolution of the republic, Greek influences, and rise of Christianity. Chapters on gladiatorial games, business, and class conflict balance out sections covering emperors, wars, and conquests. Numerous illustrations and full-color photographs of site, artifacts, and period artwork bring the time period to life for readers. The engaging and accessible writing, combined with sourced quotations make it a useful resource for research and discovery.

Book Information

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Age Range: 11 - 15 years

Grade Level: 6 - 10

Customer Reviews

Grade 7-10—Twenty-six chapters covering the history of Rome from its founding to its fall make this volume somewhat more inclusive than many other works for this audience. What makes this book accessible is the lively writing. The story of Spartacus and his slave revolt, for example, is told without embellishment, but in a narrative form that brings it alive. Many quotes from ancient writers also add interest. Chapters on gladiatorial games, business, and class conflict balance other more purely historical sections covering emperors, wars, and conquests. The numerous illustrations include full-color photographs and reproductions of sites, artifacts, period artwork, and an occasional movie still. There are also a number of simple maps. A comprehensive index adds to the book's usefulness for research and reports. Don Nardo's *From Founding to Fall: A History of Rome*

(Lucent, 2003) is less comprehensive. —David Pauli, Hillsboro Public Library, OR Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

Gr. 7-10. Numerous books deal with ancient Rome, but this volume from the World in Ancient Times series has the advantage of being more readable, more complete, and more attractive than most. Printed on thick, white paper and with full-color photos, the book begins with the founding of Rome (and the legends surrounding it) and includes chapters on important figures, such as Julius Caesar, Augustus, Hadrian, and on such topics as the Etruscans, the evolution of the republic, Greek influences, slavery, and the rise of Christianity. Unfortunately, in chapter on Christianity, the blame for the crucifixion moves from a mildly portrayed Pilate to the Jews, and biblical accounts are relied upon rather than historical ones. That aside, the book is more accessible than many volumes on the subject; the writing is quite engaging, with plenty of sourced quotations. It's a promising start to a new series, to be followed by volumes on China and Greece, which will also be written by a historian in tandem with an author who writes for young adults. Ilene Cooper Copyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved

The authors cover a lot of territory in a few pages. The pictures and illustrations accompanying the text illustrate everything from the she-wolf feeding Romulus and Remus to certain Roman superstars and even religious cults! I was particularly impressed to see Cicero's magnificent mosaic of musicians from his villa in Pompeii used as the frontispiece. Other pictures, however, are not identified well. Mellor and McGee's survey provides a wonderful overview of Roman history and includes a wide cast of characters.

This is a good book for those that are just coming to explore the Ancient World of the Mediterranean. Rome came to dominate that world and influences us even today. It is not purely by accident that we have a Senate, and that many of the buildings in Washington, D. C. resemble Greco-Roman buildings, nor that we have a republican form of government. It all comes from and through Rome. This book will give the beginning explorer information that can stand as a beginning point to mark the beginning of the exploration of this ancient culture that still influences us today. But that is its limitation, too.

From a legendary prince's journey across the sea to an African general who travels with painted war elephants, the story of the ancient Roman world's history needn't be a dry one: not with Ronald

Mellor and Marni McGee's ANCIENT ROMAN WORLD in hand. Yes, there are the usual primary sources lending to a research paper; but there's also the lively overtone missing from many similar coverages on the topic, using that material to create an engaging drama of Roman times.

Another reviewer pretty much said it: "... What a wonderful book. It has the depth of an adult book, yet is written at a young person's level..." I picked this up for my almost 8 year old for summer learning. I think I'm enjoying it more than he is. I've learned so much. We have some other books on Ancient Rome, but this book goes into more detail with short chapters.

I got this book for my 10 year old son for his study of Ancient Rome. What a wonderful book. It has the depth of an adult book, yet is written at a young person's level. The Latin and Greek roots and primary source quotes are an added bonus.

What I specifically liked was some of the black marble sculptures pictured of the first Brutus. The book has the standard history of Rome with the Etruscans, and Carthage. Having read some recent history of Rome during the Caesars, I know that it glosses over a lot of detail, to just give an overview. Ancient Rome like ancient Egypt might be a place to visit, but I doubt few modern people could stand to live there.

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