

Foundations Stories

Key Terms

- Attica** - south-eastern Greece
- Patronage** - the provision of help/ support
- Kylix** - drinking cup
- Lot** - the random drawing of a name from a pot
- Gaul** - A Roman province (northern Italy and France?)
- Public Penates** - Sacred objects dedicated to the city
- Pietas** - 'sense of duty'
- Minotaur** - Half man, half bull

Key People

- Aeneas** - demigod, founder of Rome
- Theseus** - Greek hero and king of Athens
- Romulus** - Founder of Rome
- Remus** - Brother to Romulus
- Plutarch** - Roman Biographer
- Titus Livius (Livy)** - Roman Historian
- Julius Caesar** - Roman Dictator
- Augustus Caesar** - 1st Roman Emperor



Key Knowledge

Athena and Poseidon

Athens needed a name. King Cecrops could not decide. A competition was put upon the gods to decide. Poseidon presented the king with a salt water spring, and Athena presented the king with an olive tree. The olive tree be considered considerably more useful, Athena was given naming rights, naming the city after herself. This myth was represented in sculpture on the western pediment of the Parthenon.



Theseus

Theseus was not the founder of Athens but he was its king for a time and united all of Attica. Before he could become king he had to perform an labours, similar to that of Heracles.

- i. Periphetes - bear wielding thug
- ii. Sinis - the pine bender
- iii. Crommyonian sow - savage pig
- iv. Sciron - old man who kicks people into the sea
- v. Cercyon - King of Eleusis
- vi. Procrustes - invited all to sleep in a 'magical' bed where Procrustes would cut off the head or limbs of people to make them fit
- vii. The Bull of Marathon - This was arranged to prove his heroism and relation to King Aegeus, his father.
- viii. The Minotaur - Theseus entered the labyrinth and killed the minotaur

Many of these are pictured on the kylix.

Aeneas to Romulus

Aeneas was a demigod born to Aphrodite (Venus) and a Trojan called Anchises. After the fall of Troy, Aeneas fled with his father. He took with him the cities public Penates, which were eventually looked after by the vestal Virgins. During the journey Aeneas demonstrated his pietas many times, an important Roman trait. Aeneas arrived in Italy and waged war, eventually winning and founding a new city. After Aeneus death, the line of kings eventually culminated in in the birth of Romulus and Remus who fought for the right to name a new city, which upon Romulus' win was named Rome. The Caesars traced there heritage back to Romulus and through him Aeneas, making them part divine.

Romulus compared to Theseus

Theseus and Romulus were considered to be great men in Roman and Greek history. Theseus was a great reformer, unified Athens and allowed it the become the great city it was. Romulus founded Rome after a troubled childhood and war with his brother. Plutarch, a Roman biographer compared them both. Using *Plutarch' Parallel Lives*, you need to be able to compare; the greatness of their deeds, their leadership, the reasons for their misfortune, their relationship to their family and their relationship with women and the gods.

Sources

Prescribed	Further
Plutarch - Parallel Lives	Plutarch - Life of Theseus
Livy- Early History of Rome	Euripides' Heracles
Theseus - Kylix	Homeric hymn to Aphrodite
	Homer' Iliad