

## The Founding of Rome

Long ago, the city of Rome became one of the most important cities in the ancient world. The Romans told a famous story about how their city began.

According to tradition, two baby twins named **Romulus** and **Remus** were left near the Tiber River. A she-wolf found them and kept them alive. Later, a shepherd took them in and raised them.

When the twins grew older, they decided to build a city. In the story, Romulus became the founder of Rome. Because of him, the city was called Rome.

This story is often called a **legend**. A legend is a story remembered and passed down because it is important to a people. Not every part of a legend can always be proven like a simple fact in history. Still, legends can teach us what people believed about themselves and their beginnings.

Rome was a real city, and it grew strong. In time, Rome ruled a great empire and shaped law, language, roads, government, and many other parts of civilization.

### Vocabulary

- **Legend** — a story passed down and remembered by a people
- **History** — what happened in the past
- **Founder** — a person who begins something
- **Civilization** — an organized society with cities, laws, and customs

### Reflection

Why do you think people wanted to remember the beginning of Rome?