

## Let's imagine: silver coin

Each week the Museum is going to publish a 'Let's Imagine' activity sheet. This activity sheet will include a picture of an object in the Museum. It will tell you about the object and then it will be up to you to imagine a story, poem and/or picture inspired by this object. The sheet will include at least three questions or statements to help get you started and inspired.

This week's object is a **silver coin** that can be found in the museum's permanent exhibition. Read the information in blue below to find out more about this coin.



Imagine you are need to describe the coin to a friend. What do you say?

Draw a design for the other side of the coin. You might like to research Iron Age coins.

Write a story or poem about being transported back in time to the Iron Age. You meet the owner of the coin. What do you ask them about their tribe?

This is a silver coin that was found on the Ridgeway. The coin is of the Iron Age Dubonni tribe, a Celtic tribe of the Cotswolds, north of Cirencester; they were one of the few Iron Age tribes to produce coinage before the Romans. Their territory is thought to have been bordered by these tribes: Cornovii and Corieltavi to the north; Catuvellauni to the east; Atrebates and Belgae to the south; and Silures and Ordovices to the west.

The Dobonni were probably a large tribe of farmers and craftspeople, living in small villages and hillforts. When the Romans arrived in 43AD they submitted to their rule, and are thought to have readily adopted the Romano-British lifestyle; this would have included Roman coinage.

Iron Age coins are organised by geographical region (and tribe). Some early coins from this time are difficult to attribute, but later coins tend to include the names of the rulers and the three places that they tended to be struck or minted (Camulodunum, Verulamium and Calleva). Coins from the Dubonni tribe, suggest that the rulers subdivided their land into a north and south zone, sometimes unified under one ruler. It still makes it difficult to precisely date coins from the Iron Age so most dates given are approximate.