

4. RELIGION

Gods and goddesses

The Celts had over four hundred gods and goddesses. They included Taranis, god of thunder, and Rosmerta, goddess of fertility.

They believed that many of their gods lived in lakes, springs, wells and woodland groves. They would honour them by leaving offerings near these places.

This plaque was found in Tal-y-Lyn in Wales. It's believed to represent a Celtic god and dates from the first century CE.



Smaller gods

The Celts believed that every tree, bush and flower had a little god, or spirit, inside it. Each fine and clan had their own special gods.

HISTORY HIGHLIGHT!

The Celts believed the soul lived inside the head. Capturing someone's soul gave you some of their spiritual power. So they chopped off their enemies' heads in battle and kept them.



Celtic stone head from the south-west of England. Heads feature in Celtic art as a symbol of power.



This hot spring in Bath was worshipped by the Celts.