

Roman Historical Artefact Activity!

ANSWER

It is a... Roman Strigil



This is a strange instrument - like a blunt hook. It is called a strigil and similar tools would have been used by ancient Romans to scrape dirt and sweat from their bodies. Most Romans would have bathed in a public bathhouse - only the very rich had a bathroom in their own home. The Romans did not use soap. Instead, perfumed oil would be rubbed onto the body and then scraped off with the strigil, removing any dead skin, sweat and dirt. This normally happened in the hot room of the baths (like a sauna). For wealthier people this was cleansing was done for them by slaves.