

What written primary source exists about Vesuvius's impact on Pompeii?



- Gaius Plinius
Caecilius
Secundus
– AKA: **Pliny the Younger**



- Father died when he was eight.

- Mother's brother, **Pliny the Elder**, took them in.

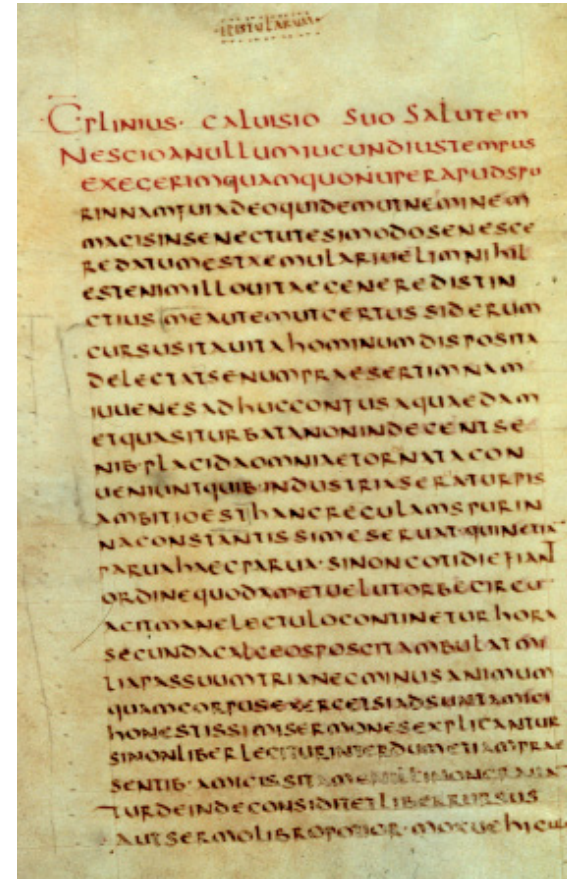


- Pliny the Younger imitated **Cicero's** style
- 100 AD – appointed counsel to **Emperor Trajan**
- All his written speeches were lost
 - Like Cicero's speeches, they talked about public officials being cruel to citizens.
- Letters – written to be published.
 - He describes Vesuvius in a letter to the historian Tacitus.



Summary of Pliny the Younger's The Destruction of Pompeii, 79 AD

- Pliny the Younger is important to the history of Pompeii because primary source evidence for the destruction comes from this letter to Tacitus.



Food for Thought...

- **Is Pliny's letter a Primary source account?** (Pliny the Younger wasn't in Pompeii).
- This letter was written **two years after** the eruption.
- Where did Pliny the Younger get the information from about the last moments of his uncle's life?



Activity Time! Illustrating Your Letter!

- We will demonstrate what to do based on **Pliny's letters to Trajan.**
- **You will illustrate one letter from Pliny's General Letters.**

