

Romans Year 5 - Art/DT Knowledge Organiser

What will I learn by the end of this topic?

- I will learn to use my sketchbook to record ideas
- I will learn how to create a roman mosaic using card paper
- I will learn how to create a life like portrait
- I will learn how to design and create a roman shield using a variety of joining techniques

Examples and designs
of mosaics by
children.



Key Facts

- Mosaics were used to decorate Roman buildings. They were made from tiny stones which were called tesserae.
- Rich people had mosaic floors in their buildings. It was a symbol of how wealthy they were. Slaves would create the floors and use hard stones, sand and water to grind the stones down so they were smooth to walk on.
- Mosaics in Britain were made from cut red brick or tile. Occasionally, they might use bits of glass for a particular effect.
- Mosaics featured geometric designs, as well as other images. Common themes were animals, fighting gladiators, romantic images and scenes from mythology and astronomy.
- Some of the tiny stones were as small as 1- 2mm² for very intricate patterns and as many as 10 000 pieces of tesserae could be used in a mosaic measuring 1m x 1m.

Key Vocabulary

Mosaic	A picture or pattern produced by arranging together small pieces of stone, tile, glass, etc
Smudge	Cause (something) to become messily smeared by rubbing it.
Sketch	A rough or unfinished drawing or painting, often made to assist in making a more finished picture.
Strap	A strip of leather, cloth, or other flexible material, used to fasten, secure, or carry something or to hold on to something.
Motif	A decorative image or design, especially a repeated one forming a pattern.
symmetrical	Made up of exactly similar parts facing each other or around an axis; showing symmetry.

What is a mosaic? Early Roman mosaics!

<https://youtu.be/uKb6BA1uAyg?feature=shared>

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How to make a Roman Shield

Step 1

Flatten the cardboard box and cut out a large rectangular piece with scissors. Draw rounded edges on each corner, and cut out.

Step 2

Paint one side of the cardboard with red acrylic paint, and leave to dry. Apply a second coat of paint, and when dry, flip it over and paint the reverse with two coats of silver paint.

Step 3

Carefully cut a foam ball in half with a kitchen knife (adult supervision required) and glue one half to the middle of the red side of the shield. Draw a square around the ball and paint with silver acrylic paint.

Step 4

Download the motif templates and print onto A4 paper. Cut out, then draw around them on gold paper. Cut out, and stick the motifs around the silver square using the picture as a guide.

Step 5

Cut a narrow strip of cardboard for a handle and cover with some silver Duck Tape. Stick to the middle of the silver side of the shield with more Duck Tape.

Scan the QR code to watch someone making a Roman shield.



EXAMPLES OF ARTWORK



Did you know?

The Romans used big shields in battle called 'Scutum'. These were good for protecting the soldiers and they would often use their shields in formation so that no arrows would be able to get through.