

TOPIC PACKS · GRADES 3–6

The Romans!

A cross-curricular themed week

Suggested timetable

Day	Subject	Activity
Monday	History	Who were the Romans? Empire, army, daily life
Tuesday	Maths	Roman numerals — read, write, calculate
Wednesday	English	Latin roots in English — vocabulary detective
Thursday	Art	Roman mosaics — design and create
Friday	History	Roman legacy — what they left us today

Day 1 — Roman empire fast facts

Topic	Fact
Founded	Traditionally 753 BCE by Romulus
Empire peak	Around 117 CE under Emperor Trajan
Empire size	Stretched from Britain to Egypt to Iraq
Population	Around 60 million people at peak
Army size	About 400,000 soldiers (legionaries)



Topic	Fact
Roman Britain	43 CE to 410 CE — almost 400 years
Empire fell	Western Empire fell in 476 CE

Day 2 — Maths (45 min)

ROMAN NUMERALS: Teach the seven symbols. I = 1, V = 5, X = 10, L = 50, C = 100, D = 500, M = 1000 RULES: • Same letters add: III = 3, XX = 20 • Smaller before larger subtracts: IV = 4, IX = 9, XL = 40 • Smaller after larger adds: VI = 6, XI = 11 ACTIVITY: Children write today's date in Roman numerals. Then their birthday. Then the year of a famous event. Look for Roman numerals on TV credits, clock faces, building dates around your area.

Day 3 — Latin roots in English

Latin root	Meaning	English words
aqua	water	aquarium, aquatic, aqueduct
audi	to hear	audio, audience, auditorium
dict	to say	dictate, dictionary, predict
spect	to look	spectacle, inspect, spectator
port	to carry	transport, import, export, portable
tele	far	television, telephone, telescope
video	to see	video, evidence, vision, visible

Day 3 vocabulary detective

Give children the Latin roots above. Their challenge: in pairs, find FIVE more English words from each root. For 'aqua' they might find aquaplane, aquamarine, aquatic, aqueous, aquaculture. The list grows as the class shares findings.

Day 4 — Art (60 min)

ROMAN MOSAICS were made from tiny coloured stones. We'll make ours from coloured paper squares. 1. Each child plans a simple design on a 10x10 grid (one square = one tile). Geometric patterns work well — borders, animals, sun shapes. 2. Cut squares of coloured paper, about 1cm x 1cm. 3. Glue squares onto a sheet, leaving tiny gaps between (the 'grout'). DISPLAY TIP:



Mount finished mosaics together for a corridor display. They look spectacular as a class set.

Day 5 — Roman legacy in our world

What we have today	From the Romans
Calendar months	January (Janus), August (Augustus), and more
The alphabet	Our letters come from Roman writing
Concrete	Romans invented the concrete we use today
Roads	Many UK roads still follow Roman routes
Underfloor heating	Roman hypocaust system inspired modern heating
Sewers and aqueducts	Roman water engineering shaped cities
Latin in law	'Habeas corpus', 'pro bono', 'subpoena'
Numerals	Still used on clocks, films, monarchs, books

