

This interactive education session responds to the National Curriculum Key Stage 2 case study on the Romans. However it has been differentiated for Key stage 1 pupils. Individual requirements can be discussed with the education team when planning your visit.

Learning objectives for this session:

- To provide children with the vocabulary necessary to describe the period studied.
- To enable pupils to see some of the ways the Romans changed Britain.
- To equip children with investigative skills, developing a greater knowledge and understanding of Roman Bath.
- To use focused observation to develop clear recording skills.

Cross-curricular opportunities are as follows:

- Art and Design: Pupils can explore urban Roman landscape through drawing. They can consider shape, pattern, texture and colour around the site of the Great Bath.
- History: Local children can explore the unit investigating what it was like to live here in the past. This could also be used as a comparison for rural schools looking for a contrasting urban landscape.
- Numeracy: Pattern and symmetry can be explored when viewing the architecture and decorations.
- Literacy: Speaking and listening skills will be developed in the context of whole class, small group and individual activities.
- PSHE: Focusing on the role of leisure and society on a visit, exploring their value to the individual and society.

Resources used:

- Roman artefacts – flue brick, mosaic tesserae, window glass, samian ware
- Replica Roman artefacts – coins, strigil, oyster shell
- Replica costumes
- Drawing materials

Structure of the session: these timings are approximate and reflect a session structure with three choices from below.

Time	Activity		
0000	Meet the group. Introduction to education activities. Divide into three groups.		
	All groups rotate around the activities, accompanied by adults. Guidance sheets are enclosed and will be available on the day. Drawing materials are provided.		
	Group 1	Group 2	Group 3
0010	Activity sheet focused on the Great Bath	Artefact handling with session leader	Costume activity: toga time
0025	Costume activity: toga time	Activity sheet focused on the Great Bath	Artefact handling with session leader
0040	Artefact handling with session leader	Self-guided activity choice two	Activity sheet focused on the Great Bath
0055	All groups: tidy away. What have we learned today?		
0100	Depart		

Advice on pre-visit work:

- It would be helpful if three groups could be organised in advance. We would also be grateful if the adults with the groups could support the children by listening to their ideas, encouraging them to work as a team and generally helping them to focus on the task in hand.
- Sheets for the activities are enclosed in this pack. Please bring enough copies for your students and helpers. Adult information sheets are included which helpers will need on the day.
- Clipboards and pencils will be available during the teaching session but you are welcome to bring your own for any tours around the site.
- You may wish to bring a camera to record your pupils in their togas!

Suggestions for follow-up work:

- Art and Design: making maquettes from the two-dimensional drawings of sculptures that may have been drawn. Or developing the work produced on site further using textures and materials.
- Drama and role play: taking on the role of a Roman citizen at the Baths, reinforcing their knowledge gained during the visit.
- Geography: reviewing the visitor route around the site and making suggestions for improvements to it.
- English: creative writing around the Baths theme. Or instructional text detailing how to use the facility in Roman times.
- Technology: design and create a Roman bathhouse.

Other essential information:

- Useful websites include: www.romanbaths.co.uk
- Official guidebook, published by Bath Archaeological Trust: The Roman Baths: A View over 2000 Years
- Useful English Heritage publications include:
Life in Roman Britain, Joan Alcock
Roman Bath, Barry Cunliffe
Roman Towns in Britain, Guy de la Bédoyère

For further information or to book a visit contact:

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