

Preston Primary School Knowledge Organiser

Topic: Art – What is Roman Art?

Term: Summer 2

Year: Unit 3

Duration: 5 Weeks

The Powerful Knowledge we will take away from this Learning Enquiry (what children will be learning):

 Collage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To know skills of overlaying in collage. To interpret stories, music, poems, and other stimuli through collage.
 Evaluate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To say what they like about their own or another child's work. To know and identify what they might change next time in their own work.
 Drawing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To interpret drawings and transposing them into squares (pixels), which replicate the Roman tiles.
 Printing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To know and explore colour mixing through printing using two colours and variety of materials. To use printing to represent the natural environment.
 IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To use the internet to research and find examples of Roman mosaics.

Our Key Vocabulary:

Word	Meaning
Roman period	The duration of the Roman Empire 753BC – 476CE.
Mosaic	A picture made up of small parts called tesserae.
Geometric	Mathematical representation
Tessellation	The process of tessellating a surface – using polygons in a repeated pattern.
Repeating	The same design used over and over again to make a pattern.
Critique	Evaluating something and sharing your opinion about it. A discussion about what is good and what could be improved.
String printing	To use string glued onto something to create a picture that is then used to print this picture onto another surface.
Border	The design around the edge of a page or a picture. It frames it.
Myth	A historical story that may or may not be based in fact. They explain natural or social events that cannot be explained without science.
Primary/ secondary colours	Primary colours can't be mixed out of other colours. Secondary colours can be mixed out of the primary colours.

Steps in learning	
 <p>Evaluate</p>	<p>To explore Roman mosaics and investigate who made them and how they were made. What is a Roman mosaic? Who made them? Where were they used? What did they depict? Who had them? How did Romans produce the tesserae?</p>
 <p>Drawing</p>  <p>Collage</p>	<p>Children will explore the colour wheel. Children will make mosaics through using other materials – children will make pixel art mosaics and then transfer this skill to make paper mosaics inspired by Roman myths and legends. Children will experiment with creating secondary colours when creating mosaics out of cellophane. How are different colours made? How do I make an image out of mosaic? What are secondary colours?</p>
 <p>Printing</p>	<p>Children will make a polystyrene tile and use this to print a roman inspired border with a repeated pattern. What is a repeated pattern?</p>
 <p>Evaluate</p>  <p>Printing</p>  <p>Collage</p>	<p>Create their independent mosaic inspired by a Roman myth. Children will be able to choose their medium based on the ones we have explored. The theme of nature will be developed and produced in the style of the Roman convention.</p>

What I already know:

In history, children have learnt that the Romans designed architecture and buildings which were decorated using mosaics. They have discussed the significance of mosaics in Roman culture.

In art, children have experimented with simple printing techniques and simple colour mixing in Key Stage One. As they move into Unit 4, children will learn to build upon these skills by embellishing using a variety of techniques including drawing, painting, and printing, and selecting specific materials to best match their desired outcome.

This mosaic is on display in Exeter Museum. It was found in the remains of a Roman house in Exeter and shows us a local example of a mosaic which would have been inside the house of a wealthy Roman family.



This mosaic shows the mythological character Medusa from Greek mythology. It is made using tiny pieces of tile called tesserae and includes a border which is a typical feature of Roman mosaics.

