ARCHAEOLOGY ACTIVITY PACK

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ART GALLERY
& MUSEUM

Roman history in Rugby

Tripontium was a town in Roman Britain and was initially
a military frontier post, established soon after the Roman invasion of
Britain around 50 AD. It later developed into a civilian town which was
inhabited for around 400 years before being abandoned in the late fourth
century when the Romans left Britain.

The first person on record to correctly identify the location of Tripontium
was Matthew Bloxam, a Rugby historian and antiquarian. He proposed
that the settlement was at Caves Inn, on the Roman road later called
Watling Street (and known today as the A5).

Rugby Archaeological Society are an independent archaeological group who
began the excavations of the site of Tripontium in the 1960s. Excavations
of the site have revealed that it was an important town, with an extensive
administrative building and a Mansio (hotel) building and large public bath
houses.

In this pack you will find activities to print, complete and
enjoy at home.

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Become an Archaeologist
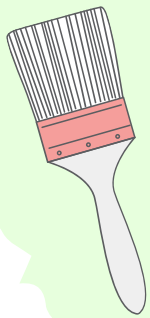
Perform your own Archaeological dig

Archaeologists discover how people lived in the past by digging up and examining what they left behind. They then record these discoveries for the future.

Perform your own dig at home by following these steps;

You will need:
- A plastic tray or container
- Soil to fill the container
- Artefacts to 'dig up', choose three organic and three inorganic materials
- Archaeologist log sheets (in this pack)
- A pencil and ruler
- Weighing scales
- Brush (use an old toothbrush or paint brush)
- Trowel (use a sand pit tool or old wooden spoon)

Complete the first section of the Archaeologist log sheets. Record all six of your artefacts before they go into the tray.

Prepare your tray:
- Outside, add a layer of soil to the bottom of the tray. Then add two artefacts.
- Cover these with soil and then add another two artefacts. Repeat until all artefacts are covered.
- Leave the tray outside to face the elements for up to eight weeks.

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Become an archaeologist

Time to get digging!

Dig up your artefacts
- Protect the surface you are working on if indoors.
- Carefully excavate in layers using your trowel
- When you discover an artefact carefully remove it and use your brush to brush away any soil.
- Place your artefact in another tray or on a plastic sheet
- Continue until you have found all of your artefacts.
- Record your artefacts on your log sheet after they have been excavated.

There are six log sheets in this pack to record each artefact.

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Become an archaeologist

Log Sheet 1

Name:

What is the artefact?

Record details of your artefacts here before adding to the tray and then again at the time of excavation

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Artefact 1 before

Date:

Length:

Width:

Height:

Weight:

What is it made from?:

Will it survive after 8 weeks? Why?

Artefact 1 after

Date:

Length:

Width:

Height:

Weight:

Have there been any changes?

Why have there been changes or why has there been no change?

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BECOME AN ARCHAEOLOGIST

Log Sheet 2

Name:

○ What is the artefact?

Record details of your artefacts here before adding to the tray and then again at the time of excavation

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Artefact 2 before

Date:

Length:

Width:

Height:

Weight:

What is it made from?:

Will it survive after 8 weeks? Why?

Artefact 2 after

Date:

Length:

Width:

Height:

Weight:

Have there been any changes?

Why have there been changes or why has there been no change?

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Become an archaeologist

Log Sheet 3

Name:

○ What is the artefact?

Record details of your artefacts here before adding to the tray and then again at the time of excavation

Artefact 3 before

Date:

Length:

Width:

Height:

Weight:

What is it made from?:

Will it survive after 8 weeks? Why?

Artefact 3 after

Date:

Length:

Width:

Height:

Weight:

Have there been any changes?

Why have there been changes or why has there been no change?

BECOME AN ARCHAEOLOGIST

Log Sheet 4

Name:

What is the artefact?

Record details of your artefacts here before adding to the tray and then again at the time of excavation

Artefact 4 before

Date:

Length:

Width:

Height:

Weight:

What is it made from?:

Will it survive after 8 weeks? Why?

Artefact 4 after

Date:

Length:

Width:

Height:

Weight:

Have there been any changes?

Why have there been changes or why has there been no change?

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Become an archaeologist

Log Sheet 5

Name:

What is the artefact?

Record details of your artefacts here before adding to the tray and then again at the time of excavation

Artefact 5 before

Date:

Length:

Width:

Height:

Weight:

What is it made from?:

Will it survive after 8 weeks? Why?

Artefact 5 after

Date:

Length:

Width:

Height:

Weight:

Have there been any changes?

Why have there been changes or why has there been no change?

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Become an archaeologist

Name:

What is the artefact?

Record details of your artefacts here before adding to the tray and then again at the time of excavation

Artefact 6 before

Date:

Length:

Width:

Height:

Weight:

What is it made from?:

Will it survive after 8 weeks? Why?

Artefact 6 after

Date:

Length:

Width:

Height:

Weight:

Have there been any changes?

Why have there been changes or why has there been no change?

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Roman Craft Activity

Construct an edible Roman road

The construction of roman roads is an ancient engineering marvel. They were a huge factor in the Romans Empire-building as they could quickly march their armies in and out of places, and they provided better trade and information routes.

Materials required;
- A small container (a tupperware box, or glass tray)
- Granola or oats
- Yogurt
- Fruit (berries or grapes)
- Square cereal (Shreddies or similar)

Make breakfast fun and educational!

Method:
- Add a base layer of fine rubble (granola or oats) to the bottom of your container.
- On top of this layer add your pebbles and stones (fruit).
- Then pour over your layer of grout (yogurt).
- Lay the final layer on top, your paving stones (square cereal pieces)

Discuss the materials Romans used to build roads. Why do you think they used different layers?

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Roman Craft Activity

Roman Coin craft

The Romans usually designed their coins with a head profile on one side and goddesses, ships, lions, temples, soldiers, chariots, or battle scenes, on the reverse. The coins were made of silver, copper, or gold. The gold coins were worth more than the silver or copper.
Craft your own Roman coins using basic craft materials.

You will need;
- Round lids (from milk jugs, jars)
- Aluminium foil
- Pencil
- Paper
- Black felt tip
- Paper towel

How to make your coins;
- On your sheet of paper, trace around the outside of your round lid with a pencil.
- Draw your coin design inside the shape.
- Cover your lid with foil, making sure the surface is smooth.
- Lay your design over the foil coin and using a pencil trace your design to leave an impression in the foil.
- If you wish, make your coin look older by adding some black felt tip and then lightly rubbing the pen away with paper towel.
- Repeat the process to make more coins.

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TRIPONTIUM WORD SEARCH

Can you find all the words below hidden inside the word search?

Bath house
Mansio
Romans

Road
Mosiac
Pottery

Numeral
Coin
Toga

Sandals
Latin

S	A	N	D	A	L	S	M	Q
I	G	N	U	M	E	R	A	L
Y	P	D	A	C	O	I	N	A
B	A	T	H	H	O	U	S	E
N	R	O	M	A	N	S	I	A
U	O	G	V	B	I	W	O	E
C	A	A	L	A	T	I	N	P
G	D	P	O	T	T	E	R	Y
M	O	S	A	I	C	R	S	O

ROMAN FOOD WORD SEARCH

Can you find all the words below hidden inside the word search?

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Butter	Dormice	Herbs
Oysters	Honey	Pepper
Spices	Wine	Bread
Garum	Mulsum	

H	E	W	S	P	I	C	E	S
E	I	S	G	A	Q	D	B	O
R	G	D	V	N	X	W	R	Y
B	A	H	O	N	E	Y	E	S
S	R	T	C	R	A	L	A	T
M	U	L	S	U	M	F	D	E
N	M	O	E	S	P	I	U	R
D	P	E	P	P	E	R	C	S
C	I	B	U	T	T	E	R	E

Roman colouring page

Colour in the Roman feast

Roman colouring page

Colour in the Roman pot. Decorate with Roman inspired patterns..