

# Latin Language Adventure

# ASHMOLEAN

## Key Stage: 2

National Curriculum  
Subject Area/s:  
History, literacy, potential for  
cross-curricular work

Length of session:  
1 hour and 30 minutes (KS2)

Max group size: 32 pupils

## Session outline

Discover how to unlock additional information about life in Roman times through exploring Latin Inscriptions.

### Activity 1: Reading like a Roman

- Find out about a Roman cavalry officer and his family using Roman numerals to get started.
- Search the gallery looking for more inscriptions and find out more about real men and women in Roman society and the jobs they did.

### Activity 2: Talk like a Roman

- Get enlisted in the army and will be drilled using Roman commands.
- Learn about insults inscribed on Roman sling bullets and play an insult matching game.
- Take part in drama activities bringing to life a Roman bas relief carving.

### Activity 3: Object handling

- Handle original and replica objects to discover more about things that real people from the past made and used.

### Activity 4: Write like a Roman

- Become a Roman citizen taking on a name and a nickname.
- Make a Latin Inscription on EVA foam to take back to school.

## Learning Outcomes

- Understanding more about the life of real people in the Roman Empire through written evidence.
- Improved linguistic awareness - discovering that our language has been heavily influenced by Latin.
- Knowledge and understanding of using archaeological evidence to learn about the past.
- Understanding more about the different kinds of materials used by craftsmen.
- Improved speaking and listening skills.



'The year 6 class  
absolutely loved  
this'

Head teacher  
New Hinksey  
Primary School



For more information and to book

Education Department

Ashmolean Museum

Beaumont Street

Oxford OX1 2PH

T. 01865 278015

E. [education.service@ashmus.ox.ac.uk](mailto:education.service@ashmus.ox.ac.uk)

[www.ashmolean.org/learn](http://www.ashmolean.org/learn)

### Pre visit activities

- Look at a map of Roman Empire.
- Look at Roman numerals.

### Post visit activities

- Follow up on the write like a Roman activity picking the letters out in red felt pen.
- Choose a job and make a votive plaque to a god to help you with your work.
- Make sling bullets using polystyrene eggs.
- Design your own Roman coin.
- Discover more about eating and drinking in the Roman world, and the similarities and differences with today. Create your own Roman menu. If possible have Roman feast.

### Resources

The following resources are available to download on our website:

[www.ashmolean.org/learning-resources](http://www.ashmolean.org/learning-resources)

- Images of some of the objects used in the session.
- Felix gem jigsaw activity.

<http://latininscriptions.ashmus.ox.ac.uk/resources/> for more activities and information about Latin Inscriptions including votive plaque and sling bullet activities.



This bronze votive plaque is dedicated to Hercules by a tribune called Marus from the 20th legion. The inscription reads, 'DEO HERCULLI MARUS TRIB LEG XX FEC.' 'To the god Hercules made by Tribune Marus from the 20th legion.'