



Year Group: 4

Term: Summer

The Volcanic Romans

Theme Overview

We are looking back to one of the most fascinating eras in History - The Roman Empire. We explore the Emperors, the Armies, the Invasions and the Rebellions. We learn about the impact on Great Britain, then and now. We look back at key events, including the destruction of Pompeii in AD79, which leads us to explore one of the world's most significant physical features – Volcanoes!

Knowledge Base

- Julius Caesar leads the first invasion to Great Britain, when Rome was still republic, in 55-54BC.
- The Roman Empire started in 27BC in Rome, Italy
- Caesar Augustus was the first Roman Emperor, reigning from 27BC until his death in AD14
- The Romans invaded Great Britain and started their rule in AD43
- This invasion was led by Claudius, Roman Emperor, reigning for 13 years, from AD41 to AD54
- The Romans based themselves in London – known then as Londinium
- Queen Boudicca led a rebellion against the Romans in AD60
- Mount Vesuvius erupted in AD79 destroying Pompeii
- Hadrian's Wall was built in AD122 by order the Roman Emperor Hadrian to mark the boundaries of the Roman empire and keep the Scots out.
- The Earth has three layers- Crust, Mantle, Core and the Earth's Crust is made up of plates made up of solid rock.
- Volcanoes are mountains, made up of layers of lava and ash and are formed when magma travels through an opening in Earth's Crust
- Volcanoes can be active, erupting, dormant or extinct
- The Ring of Fire is located around The Pacific Ocean
- The benefits of living by a Volcano include: Mineral rich soil, money from tourists, thermal energy

Skills

- Use of timelines in order to sequence events and key figures chronologically
- Use maps, atlases, globes and digital mapping to locate countries and describe features
- Using secondary sources in order to retrieve key information
- Use artefacts and records to deduce events that may have happened in the past

Reading

- The Lost Happy Endings by Carol Ann Duffy
- Non-chronological reports about volcanoes

Additional Vocabulary

Roman Empire, Emperor, Legion, Legionary, Emperor, Invasion, Century, Centurion

Dormant, Extinct, Active, Eruption, Ash, Magma, Lava, Crust, Mantle, Core, Plate

DT Objectives

- Cooking – to design and make bread based on a Roman recipe.
- Art Links – Mosaics, Clay Volcanoes (coil pots)

Writing links

- Non-chronological report about volcanoes
- Letters to inform of risks of living by a volcano
- Diary entry based on Pompeii