

Teacher's Guide for DIG: *The Lion That Was Rome*

January 2009

Objectives-

1. To gain an understanding and appreciation for ancient Rome.
2. To come to an awareness about the advances being made by modern science which help archaeologists learn more about the past.

Stones and Bones (pages 6-7)

Downtown Find

- What is black basalt flooring?
- Why is the discovery of this flooring and an ancient wall important to archaeologists?
- Why did Montezuma use his "Black House"?

Here's One for Indy

- Write a paragraph telling why you think that the crystal or the quartz skull is ancient. You may wish to make up a story to explain its existence.
- Write a paragraph and explain why the skulls are a recent creation. This could also take the form of a story, or a newspaper article.

Dinosaurs Galore

- Explain why 2008 was a banner year for palaeontologists.
- Tell why geologists believe that the area in Utah has preserved skeletons.

In the Beginning (pages 8-11)

Use the map on the Table of Contents pages along with this article to provide a sense of the geography/topography of ancient Rome.

- According to legend, who founded Rome?
- Explain why there has been limited evidence of ancient times around the area of Rome.
- Describe what has been found around the Platine Hill.
- Why are there questions about the origins of the bronze wolf?
- Explain what you think the "Black Stone" means in relationship to ancient Rome.
- Why was the Tiber River important to Rome?
- Explain how the Etruscans relate to ancient Rome.

The Empire's Finest (pages 12-14)

Ideas to use with this article-

- What is the modern Roman legion?
- Who are its members?
- What are fabricums? What happens during this event?
- Provide information about the original Legion X1111.
- Supply reasons why you think that Roman soldiers were important to the development of Rome.

What's What With the Rostra? (pages 14-15)

- What were rostra to ancient Romans?
- Describe the uses of the Comitium.

Rome Lives Again! (pages 16-17)

Questions to help with the content in this article-

- What technologies are used in Virtual Reality?
- What does a multidisciplinary project mean?
- Tell what evidence was used to help develop the Digital Roman Forum.
- Explain how individual monuments were recreated.
- How many cell phones help Virtual Reality in archaeology?

Living Ruins (pages 18-19, 22)

Suggestions/activities to use-

- Describe the original purpose of the Colosseum.
- Explain how the Colosseum was used after 523.
- What did the people of the Middle Ages think about the Colosseum?
- Describe the use of the Colosseum by the Christians.
- Write a paragraph giving your opinion of the future for the Colosseum.

The Digital Colosseum (pages 20-21)

- Describe the structure of the Colosseum.
- Who was seated where in the Colosseum? Explain why there was different seating.
- Explain how you think that the awning might have worked.

Life in the "Burbs" (pages 2-24)

Questions to consider-

- Describe a villa.
- Who owned and lived in a villa?
- How did the residents enjoy their villa?
- What is an aqueduct?
- Why was an aqueduct important?

A Luxury Villa (pages 24-25, 28)

- What did Thomas Ashby contribute to the world of archaeology?
- Describe how a bathroom worked in ancient Rome.
- How were woolen clothes bleached?
- Make a drawing of a Roman villa.

At Home Comforts (pages 26-27)

Ideas that may be used to assist with discussions-

- Describe how **cubicula** were used.
- What was the purpose of a couch to Romans?
- Why was "fake" architecture used?
- Explain why different rooms were used in different seasons.

The Digital Hypogeum (page 3)

- What entertainment was provided in the Colosseum?
- Describe the function of the hypogeum.

Some Culminating Activities-

- Pretend that you have been able to go back in time to ancient Rome. Complete one of the following:
 - Write a letter home to a friend describing your experience.
 - Send a postcard to someone telling about ancient Rome.
 - Create a travelogue for other tourists, describing the things that they can see and do while visiting ancient Rome. Include pictures.
- Pretend that you are visiting Rome today. Complete one of the following:
 - Develop a news report about some artefacts that you discovered.
 - Create a brochure that would entice a tourist to visit Rome.
- Use the articles in the magazine on Virtual Reality.
 - Recreate in picture format an ancient structure.
 - Create a newscast to inform the public that Virtual Reality can teach us about the hidden past.