Year: EYFS

Topic: Chariots

Time Period: Romans

**Learning Outcomes:**

* **Talk about the lives of the people around them and their roles in society.**
* **Know some similarities and differences between things in the past and now,   
  drawing on their experiences and what has been read in class.**
* **Understand the past through settings, characters and events encountered in   
  books read in class and storytelling.**

Lesson plan: Session 1

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| INTRODUCTION | VOCABULARY |
| Focus on ‘Chariot’ class name  Sit the children in a circle to discuss the following. Show the following pictures on the board.    Artist's impression of the Roman Circus of Camulodunum, Colchester (UK) by Carole Raddato via Flickr CC BY-SA 2.0  What are they? Ask the children to think, pair and share their ideas.  Tell the children that the bottom picture is of a Roman chariot. It was something which was used 2000 years ago. That is a long, long time ago. Roman people would race in chariots, pulled by horses and people would go and watch them. Can you think of something similar that happens today? An event where people do something and other people watch? Horse racing, football games.  Explain there were no TVs, iPads etc then so this was used as entertainment.  The top picture shows the Roman Circus which was an oval shaped arena. The racing took place inside this and people sat around the outside to watch. Unbelievably we have the remains of a Roman Circus near out school. Has anyone ever seen it? | chariot  entertainment  Romans  long ago  the past  2000 years  oval  arena |

Lesson plan: Session 2 and 3

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| INTRODUCTION | VOCABULARY |
| WATCH:  https://study.com/academy/lesson/video/roman-chariots-chariot-races-lesson-for-kids.html  (It is American but the children can see the chariot and how to steer it…)  Walk the children to The Roman Circus for a visit  Before the visit explain:  The chariots would race around seven laps of the stadium and the race would usually last around fifteen minutes. In a race, four teams (called factions) would race against each other. The sport was very competitive and could be very dangerous  <https://www.visitcolchester.com/listing/roman-circus-visitor-centre/119000101/>  As the children complete a unit about the Roman Circus in Year 1, just take them to the starting blocks outside the centre and discuss how this was where the chariots started their races.  How do we think the charioteers would be feeling?  Why? | chariot  entertainment  Romans  long ago  the past  2000 years  oval  arena  starting blocks  horses |

Lesson plan: Session 4

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| INTRODUCTION | VOCABULARY |
| WATCH  <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jsIlI_qc4aE>  (This clip is from Disney but watch it before showing the children, as you may have sensitive children.)  Take the children into the learning garden.  Remind them of their learning so far - Romans - who lived long, long ago and the entertainment of chariot racing that they enjoyed.  Challenge:  Can they create their own chariot (in teams of 4) out of junk modelling, large wooden building blocks etc…  Can they think about the reins, where the horses would go and can they stand in it safely?  Take photos for evidence. | chariot  entertainment  Roman  long ago  the past  2000 years  oval  arena  starting blocks  horses |

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One Square Mile: Heritage on our Doorstep

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