

# I-SEARCH INDEPENDENT RESEARCH PROJECTS FOR GIFTED AND TALENTED STUDENTS

## *Rome*

1. **PARADOXES:**  
It is assumed that indoor plumbing was invented within the last 200 years. The ancient Romans had developed a system of indoor plumbing. Develop a model depicting ancient Rome's system of plumbing.
2. **ATTRIBUTES:**  
English is one of the many languages based on Latin. Create a crossword puzzle using as many English words that come from Latin that we use today as you can find.
3. **ANALOGIES:**  
The Romans loved watching Gladiator fights at the Colosseum and Chariot races at the Circus Maximus. Have we really changed so much from that? Create a video comparing modern sports (football, hockey, boxing, car racing) with the events of the Colosseum and Circus Maximus.
4. **DISCREPANCIES:**  
The Romans did not know that the lead in their plumbing, toys, and makeup would lead to mental deterioration. Create a PowerPoint to teach the side effects of lead poisoning.
5. **PROVOCATIVE QUESTIONS:**  
Much of the architecture in the United States is based on the buildings from Rome (Pantheon, Colosseum). Suppose we held the Egyptian, Chinese, or Mesopotamian cultures in such high regard. Create a jigsaw puzzle showing how different Washington D.C. might look today if our model was Egypt, China, or the Middle East.
6. **EXAMPLES OF CHANGE:**  
The death of Julius Caesar brought about sudden change to the Roman Empire. Create a comic strip illustrating how those changes affected Rome.
7. **EXAMPLES OF HABIT:**  
There are many myths to be found in history. Some people claim that the Colosseum was occasionally used for naval battles. Others say that this is impossible. Create a model showing whether or not naval battles would have been possible in the Colosseum.
8. **ORGANIZED RANDOM SEARCH:**  
The Romans were prolific builders, especially when using arches and domes. Create a model of a modern bathhouse using arches and domes in the same way as the Romans.
9. **SKILLS OF SEARCH:**  
Research the foods eaten in Ancient Rome. Prepare a meal for the class based on these foods. Set up a food guide pyramid comparing today's food pyramid to theirs.
10. **TOLERANCE FOR AMBIGUITY:**  
Ancient Roman women did not enjoy many of the same rights as men. Many people in the United States today feel that women continue to suffer from discrimination. Write an editorial essay refuting this belief.

## PRODUCTS

A Dance/A Letter/ A Lesson	Oral Defense
Advertisement	Oral Report
Animated Movie	Painting Pamphlet
Annotated Bibliography	Pantomime
Art Gallery	Papier Mache
Block Picture Story	Petition
Bulletin Board	Photo Essay
Bumper Sticker	Pictures
Chart	Picture Story for Children
Choral Reading	Plaster of Paris Model
Clay Sculpture	Play
Code	Poetry
Collage	Political Cartoon
Collection	Pop-Up Book
Comic Strip	Postage Stamp,
Computer Program	Commemoratives
Costumes	Press Conference
Crossword Puzzle	Project Cube
Database	Prototype
Debate	Puppet
Demonstration	Puppet Show
Detailed Illustration	Puzzle
Diorama	Rap
Diary	Radio Program
Display	Rebus Story
Edibles	Recipe
Editorial Essay	Riddle
Etching	Role Play
Experiment	Science Fiction Story
Fact Tile	Sculpture
Fairy Tale	Skit
Family Tree	Slide Show
Fiction Story	Slogan
Film	Soliloquy
Filmstrip	Song
Flip Book	Sound
Game	Story Telling-Tall
Graph	Tales
Hidden Picture	Survey
Illustrated Story	Tapes-Audio-Video
Interview	Television Program
Jingle	Timeline
Joke Book	Transparencies
Journal	Travel Brochure
Labeled Diagram	Venn Diagram
Large Scale Drawing	Web Home Page
Learning Center	Working Hypothesis
Letter to the Editor	Write a new law
Map with Legend	Video Film
Mazes	
Mural	
Museum Exhibit	
Musical Instruments	
Needlework	
Newspaper Story	
Non-Fiction	

11. **INTUITIVE EXPRESSION:**

Imagine you lived in Rome in A.D. 100. Write a fictional story of how you felt, what your life was like, and the challenges you faced.

12. **ADJUSTMENT TO DEVELOPMENT:**

Many events led to the fall of the Roman Empire. Some experts feel that the United States is doomed to experience a similar fall. Create a Venn diagram comparing and contrasting ancient Rome and the modern United States.

13. **STUDY CREATIVE PEOPLE AND PROCESS:**

Choose a person that lived in Rome. Create a newspaper story on his/her successes and failures.

14. **EVALUATE SITUATIONS:**

The Romans made advances in science, medicine, art, and architecture. Create a television program explaining Rome's greatest achievement.

15. **CREATIVE READING SKILL:**

Read the legend of Romulus and Remus. Write a play that shows the legend of Romulus and Remus and the founding of Rome.

16. **CREATIVE LISTENING SKILL:**

Listen to Antony's speech at Caesar's funeral. Pretending you are a newscaster in Roman times, create a fictitious interview with Antony following Caesar's funeral.

17. **CREATIVE WRITING SKILL:**

Research a particular event or time period in ancient Rome that interests you. Use your research to write a "Choose Your Way Through History" story that you can read to the class. Include several places in the story where the class must choose what happens next. Create several endings for their choices.

18. **VISUALIZATION SKILL:**

Gladiators and Charioteers were Rome's equivalent of our movies stars. Create a movie poster advertising an upcoming Gladiator fight or Chariot race.

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