



Project: Roman mosaic

Learning outcomes

By the end of the project, children will have:

- practised language from Units 13–18 through a group project
- broadened their knowledge of history and maths
- developed their critical thinking, ICT and/or art skills and communication skills
- produced their own mosaic, either on the computer or by hand, and written descriptions
- presented their group display to the class
- looked at other groups' displays and read their mosaic descriptions



CLIL focus

History: the Romans

Maths: shape and space

Critical thinking: research

ICT: using a search engine, design, keyboard skills

Art: drawing, cutting, colouring, sticking (if computers not available)

Communication: presenting to peers

Skills focus

Listening: instructions, short descriptions

Speaking: discussing ideas, presenting, making guesses

Reading: information, short descriptions

Writing: short descriptions

Language focus

Vocabulary

The Romans: *armour, bead, bottle, bow and arrow, chariot, cloak, helmet, jar, soldier, spear, vase*

Shapes: *hexagon, rectangle, square, triangle*

Colours: *familiar colours, gold, silver*

Animals and plants: *bird, fish, flower, horse*

Art-related adjectives: *beautiful, bright, fantastic, pretty, shining, wonderful*

Grammar

Has the bird got any pink feathers?

The bird has got some pink feathers.

The bird hasn't got any pink feathers.

There are some pink feathers on its back.

A lot of triangles.

Lots of squares.



Teaching notes

Materials if computers and a printer are available

Template: mosaics (one per four or five children)

For each child: a computer with access to the Internet, drawing programme and a colour printer; one large sheet of paper or card; scissors; glue

Materials if computers and a printer are not available

Template: mosaics (one per four or five children)

Template: grid (one per child)

For each child: paper; small pieces of coloured paper or colour magazines to cut up; one large sheet of paper or card; scissors; glue; pencils and pens; coloured pencils; books about mosaics

Lesson plan

Class warm-up

- 1 Elicit sentences about Roman life and write them on the board: e.g. *The Romans built cities, bridges and roads. The Romans were good soldiers.*
- 2 Tell the children that the Romans made mosaics. Write the word on the board and give out the mosaics template. Elicit sentences from the children about the pictures.

Group work

- 1 Divide the children into groups of five or six. Tell children they are going to make their own mosaic pictures (one per child) and make a group display.
- 2 Children carry out their own research on the Internet to find examples of Roman mosaic pictures. They write notes about what is shown in some of the pictures.
- 3 Talk about the different shapes that fit together to make the pictures. Elicit some ideas of simple objects they could show in a mosaic and write these on the board: e.g. *bird, butterfly, fish, flower, shell, vase.* Within each group, each child should make a picture of a different object.
- 4 Children design their own mosaic picture on the computer and print it out. Monitor, ask questions about the mosaic: e.g. *Has the flower got any red petals?*
- 5 All children write a description of their mosaic on the computer: e.g. *There are lots of gold squares. There are some flowers. There aren't any fish.*
- 6 Groups stick their pictures on the large sheet of paper or card, with the descriptions down one side in random order.
- 7 Groups show their display to the rest of the class, explaining how they made their pictures. One child reads out all the written descriptions, and the other children have to guess which picture is being described.

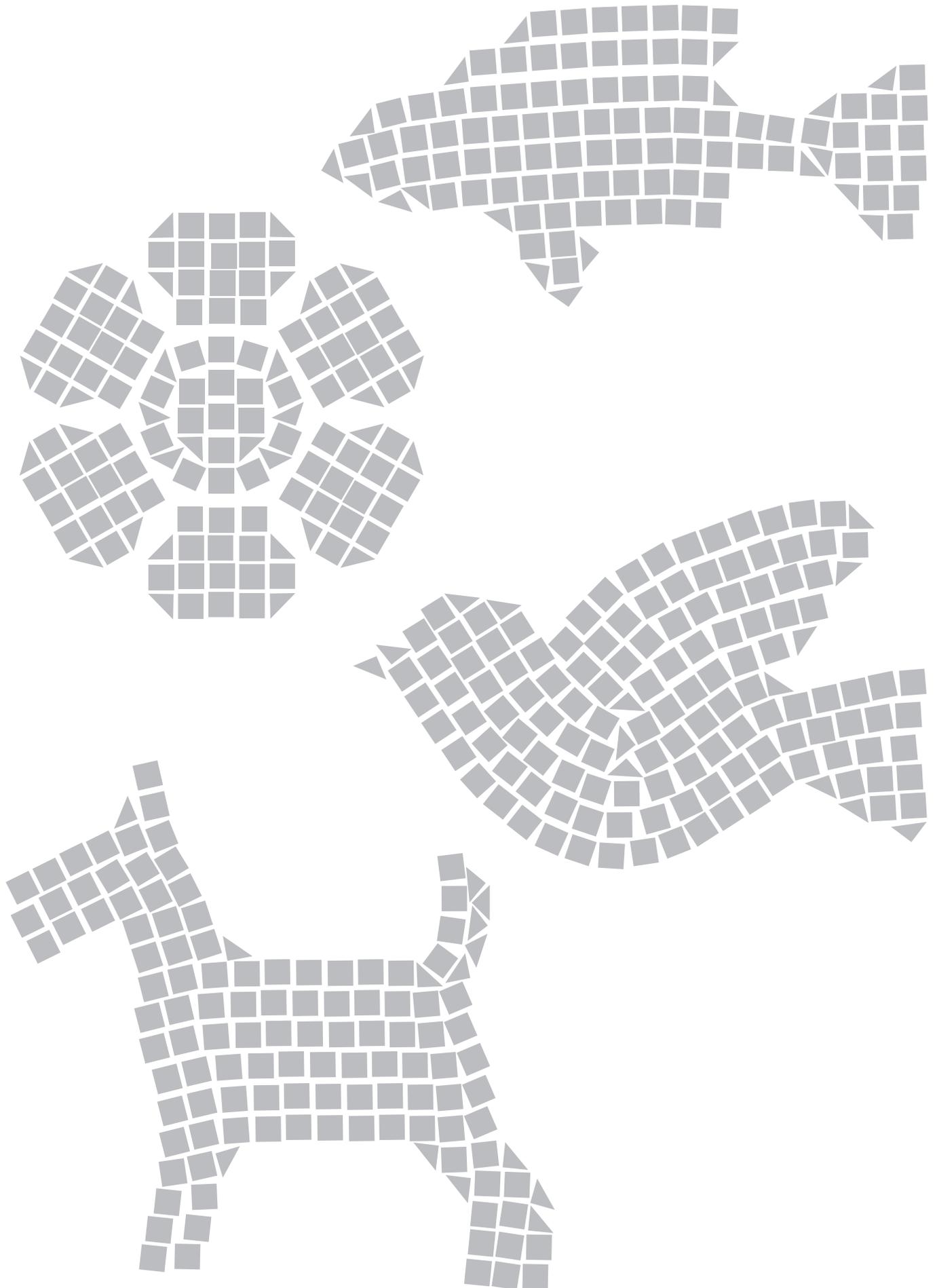
Note: If computers are not available, children can research mosaics in books. They can make their picture either by colouring squares or triangles on the grid template, or by sticking coloured shapes onto white paper so they fit closely together. They should draw a faint outline in pencil first. They can write their descriptions on paper.

Follow-up

- 1 Display the mosaics on the classroom wall. Children look at them and read the descriptions.
- 2 For homework, children make a bookmark with a very simple mosaic design on it.



Mosaics





Grid

