

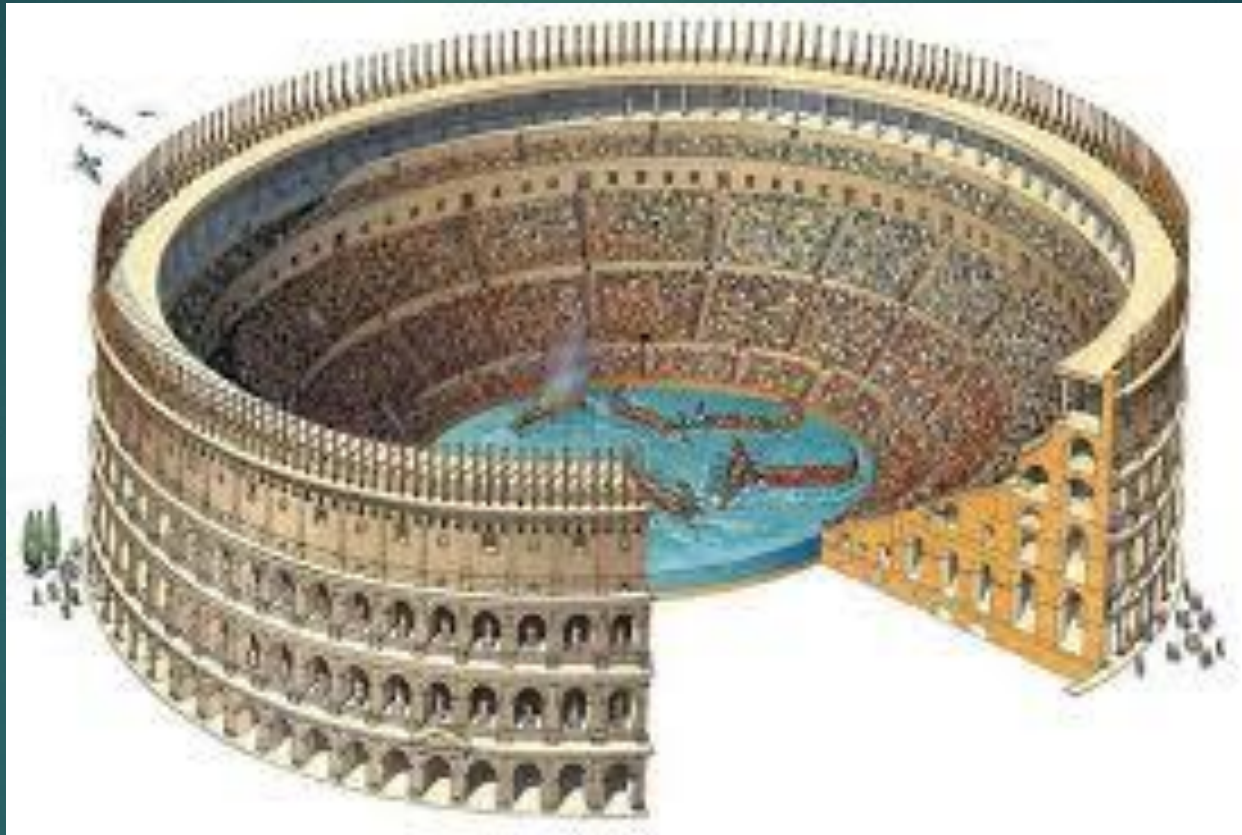
Information Leaflet

The Colosseum

Year 3

The Colosseum and The Gladiators

- ▶ Some things the Romans did for fun were horrible. They enjoyed fights between gladiators, and fights between people and animals. These bloodthirsty shows were put on in front of crowds in large arenas called amphitheatres.
- ▶ Roman emperors paid for free shows at theatres and amphitheatres. It was a good way to make themselves popular.



















Rome - The Biggest landmark of all



The Roman Colosseum was opened in 80AD and was originally called the Flavian Amphitheatre.

The Colosseum

In ancient Roman times, this massive amphitheatre held 50,000 spectators. They watched gory fights between gladiators, slaves, prisoners and wild animals.



The layout

- ▶ There were 36 trap doors in the Arena, allowing for elaborate special effects.
- ▶ Wild and exotic animals appeared there including lions, tigers, hyenas, hippos, rhinos, crocodiles, ostriches, antelopes, bears and zebras.
- ▶ There were over 20 different types of Gladiators.
- ▶ The Roman Colosseum was used for staging various events including gladiator fights, wild animal displays, theatrical entertainment, religious ceremonies, mock sea battles and re-playing famous Roman victories.

Safety Measures

- ▶ The Colosseum Arena was really dangerous.
- ▶ The arena was the area of the Colosseum where the events were held which was separated from the seating areas by a massive wall, faced with marble. A large ditch (euripi) provided even more protection.
- ▶ The massive marble wall measured 15ft high and had rollers on the top.
- ▶ There was also a ditch, containing a series of niches, providing additional protection.

The Gate of Life and the Gate of Death

- ▶ Entry to the Colosseum Arena was made through the Gate of Life called the Porta Sanavivaria.
- ▶ Successful exits following combat was also taken through this gate.
- ▶ Injured gladiators then made their way to the Sanitarium where the wounded gladiators were taken for medical attention.
- ▶ The people and animals, who were killed without mercy in the arena, were dragged out through the Gate of Death.

Gladiators

- ▶ Gladiators were designated a particular fighting style which suited their physique and were trained with the relevant armour and weapons.
- ▶ There were strict rules and protocol surrounding the fights of gladiators at the Roman Colosseum.
- ▶ A gladiatorial fight involved a matched pair.

What the Gladiators did...

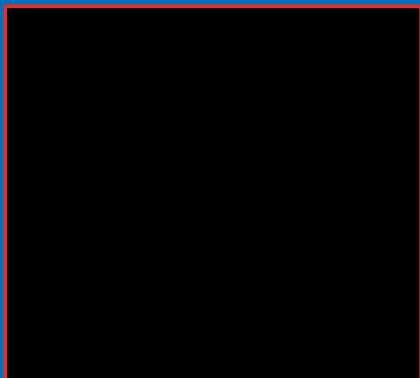
- ▶ After the entry of the gladiators at the Colosseum they would have saluted the Emperor.
- ▶ The gladiators who fought in the Colosseum and other Roman arenas had sworn a legal agreement.
- ▶ This meant they handed themselves over as slaves to their master and trainer, agreeing to submit to beating, burning, and death by the sword if they did not perform as required.

Fight to the end?

- ▶ Gladiators at the Colosseum who acknowledged defeat could request the fight to be stopped.
- ▶ The gladiator would signal his request by raising his finger, or his hand and arm.
- ▶ The editor took the crowd's response into consideration in deciding whether to let the loser live or order the victor to kill him.
- ▶ It is commonly believed that the audience used their hands to signal what they wanted the winning gladiator to do.

Information Leaflets – some ideas

The Colosseum



Quotes from people who have visited:

- 'Fun to be had for all the family...'
Michael, Surrey
-
-
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Where the Gladiators Show their Might!

Introduction - explain what the place is about.

In other sections, explain what you can see and do there.

Give a map of The Colosseum

Give ticket information

Explain where refreshments can be bought e.g. baked dormice, salted peas

Public Transport options

Address of The Colosseum

Leaflets – The Colosseum

The Colosseum, in Rome, in Ancient Roman Times, is trying to attract new people to go.

Design a leaflet for The Colosseum, that will attract new customers.

The leaflet should persuade people to go.

What will you write to help boost sales?

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