Romans
Roman Roads
Before the Romans arrived, Britain had no proper roads. The Celts rode horses, walked and travelled in carts pulled by oxen along paths and tracks. These paths and tracks connected local farms and hamlets, and there were some longer routes for trade. These tracks were often in very poor condition.

1. Why do you think the Romans wanted to build new roads?
2. Can you think of three possible reasons?
The Emperor had more control if messages could be sent quickly.

Roman Roads

Why did the Romans want better roads?

Did you think of any of these reasons?

Troops could be quickly moved from one place to another.

Supplies could be sent to different areas of the country.

Better links between places was good for trading.

The Emperor had more control if messages could be sent quickly.
Roman Roads

The Romans were famous for their long, straight roads. You can still see some Roman roads today, two thousand years after they were built.
The First Roman Roads

Use maps to locate the places.

Why was it important for the Romans to link the military centres to the ports?
The First Roman Roads

The Fosse Way was one of the first great Roman roads in Britain. It ran from Exeter to Lincoln, passing through Bath, Gloucester and Leicester.

Can you find the Fosse Way on your map?

Key
- Military centre
- Port

Lincoln
Leicester
Colchester
Richborough
Dover
Lympne

Bath
Gloucester
Exeter
London
Over the years, the Romans continued to build more roads, linking to many places throughout Britain. Eventually, around 2000 miles of Roman roads had been built.

**Other Routes**
- Chester to York
- London to Lincoln to York
- Chester to Carlisle
- Dover, Lympne and Richborough to London to Wroxeter
Mapping Roman Roads

1. Use an atlas to locate the start and finish points of the Romans roads on your sheet.
2. Mark and label the places on your map and then draw and label the road.
3. Use a different colour for each road.
Building the Roads

To build a Roman road, we would need to:

1. Dig a large ditch the width of your road.
2. Fill your ditch with a layer of rubble and a layer of stones.
3. Dig two smaller ditches either side.
4. Cover the stones with a layer of sand or small pebbles and gravel, thicker in the middle to make a camber so that the rain will drain off into the two side ditches.
5. Set a layer of smooth paving stones into the sand or gravel to make a hard surface.
Building the Roads

Can you name the parts of this Roman road?

- **smooth paving stones**
- **stones**
- **rubble**
- **sand, pebbles and gravel**
How to Make an Edible Roman Road

You will need
A small rectangular baking tray or plastic cups
Plain biscuits
Smarties
Ready-made custard
Maltesers
Custard Cream biscuits

What to do
1. Crush the plain biscuits and sprinkle them all across the bottom of the tray.
2. Mix together the Maltesers and half of the custard and pour the mixture over the crushed biscuits.
3. Combine the remaining custard with the Smarties and spread the mixture above the previous layer.
4. Place the Custard Creams carefully beside each other until they cover the whole surface.
Stone slabs
Crushed rocks in cement
Stones in cement
Sand
Crushed biscuits
Maltesers and custard
Smarties and custard
Custard Creams