LANGUAGE ANGELS

Language: Italian | Teaching Type: Intermediate | Unit: I Romani

Unit Objective:

To learn about ancient Rome and be able to describe yourself as a Roman child in terms of what life was like in ancient Rome in Italian.

By the end of this unit we will be able to:

- Understand the key facts of the history of ancient Rome in Italian.
- Recall and spell the days of the week in Italian, and their relation to Roman gods.
- Name some/all of the most famous Roman inventions in Italian.
- Make a presentation as a rich and/or poor child in Roman times, including what life would have been like, in Italian.

It will help if we already know:

- The letter sounds (phonics & phonemes) from 'Phonics & Pronunciation' lessons 1 and 2.
- How to use the negative in Italian from units like ‘In the Classroom', and ‘Do You Have a Pet?’ and/or 'My Home’.
- Some prior information about this topic in English, however this is not essential.

Skills we will develop:

To further improve decoding skills, building up our use of language learning strategies gradually understanding more and more of what we hear and read. Improving also our written and spoken Italian by writing a sequence of sentences including the accurate use of the negative.

Activities we will complete:

A number of different activities in the first 2 lessons to help further improve decoding skills of longer text with less familiar language. This will include story ordering and using picture and word cards. We will then learn the 7 days of the week and see how these are connected to the Roman Gods. The final task of the unit will be making a presentation as a rich and/or poor Roman child describing what we wear and do not wear, what we eat and do not eat and whether we work or still go to school. All in Italian!

Grammar we will learn & revisit:

Changing sentences from the positive to their negative form using the structure ‘non' + conjugated verb.

Phonics & pronunciation we will see:

Recommended phonics focus: GA GE GI GO GU

- GA sound in toga and ragazzo.
- GE sound leggenda.
- GI sound in giovedì and mangio.
- Double letters. It is very common to find double consonants in Italian. They have a different pronunciation than single consonants and can change the meaning of the word. Double consonants are pronounced much more forcefully than single consonants as seen in ric-co and indos-so. Stronger rather than longer!
- R sound. The ‘r’ in Italian is always a rolled r. This is difficult but can be done with practice! It is the tip of the tongue moving very quickly against the roof of the mouth, just behind the teeth like in the words Roma and Romani.

Vocabulary we will learn & revisit:

Revisiting the days of the week and positive and negative sentence structures in Italian. Learning to conjugate regular and irregular verbs in the 1st person, such as ‘mangio’ *(I eat)* from the regular –ARE verb ‘mangiare’ *(to eat)*, or ‘sono’ *(I am)* from the irregular verb ‘essere’ *(to be)*. All listed in the Pupil Unit Glossary.