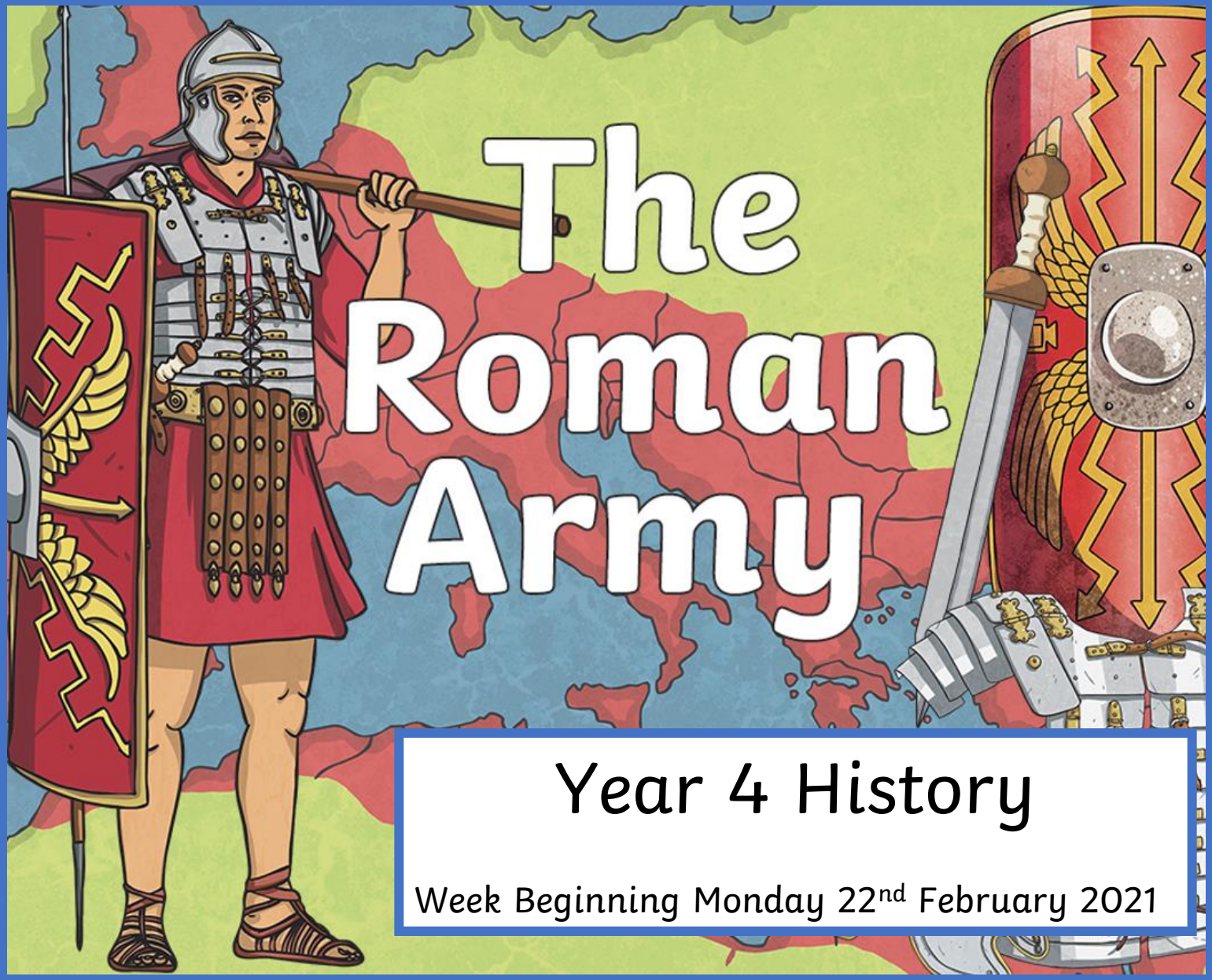
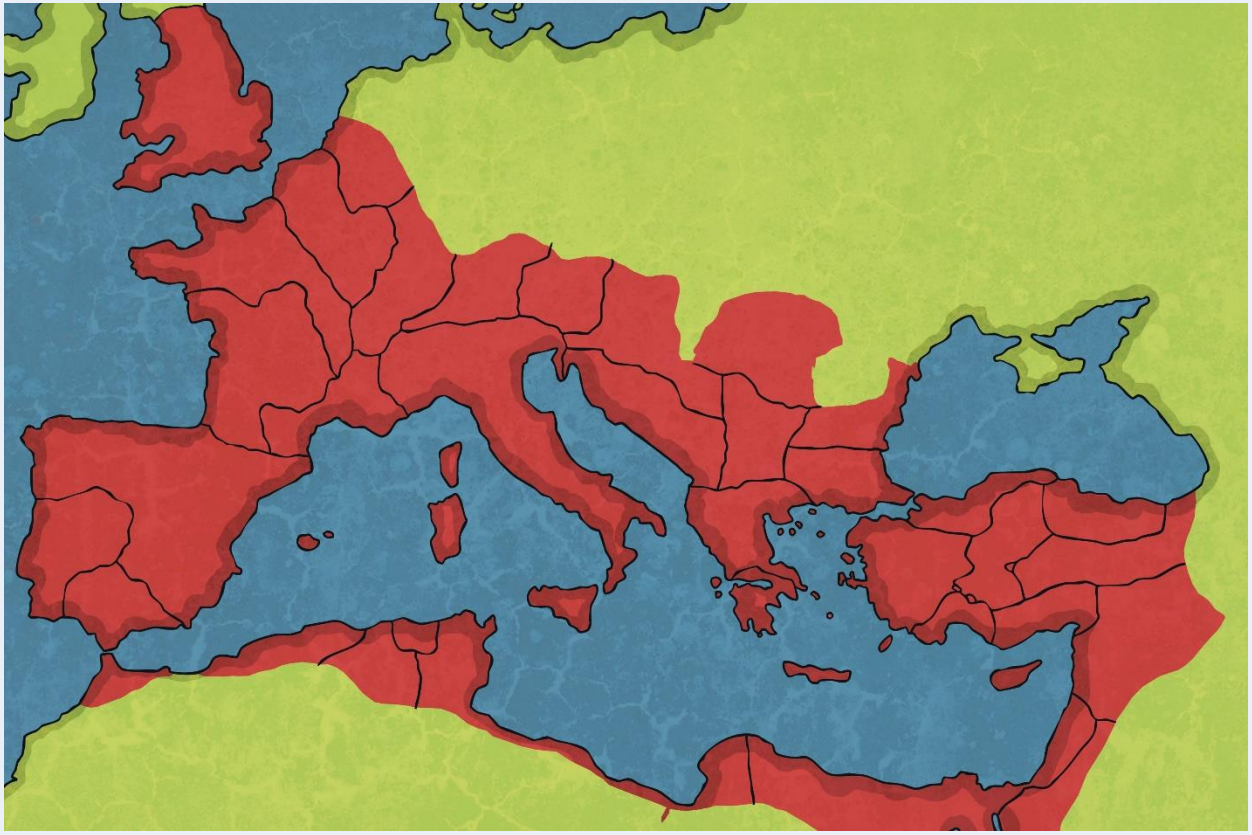


Year 4 History

Week Beginning Monday 22nd February 2021

The Roman Army

The brilliance of the Roman army was the key to Rome's success in building its empire.



The Start of the Roman Army

In the beginning, the soldiers were the better-off citizens who were sent home at the end of the war.

The Romans copied Greek armies and fought on foot with long spears.

As Roman power grew, more and more people were made to join the army.

How the Army Changed

As the army grew bigger, it had to fight further away from home.

Being a soldier became a full-time job, where the soldiers were highly trained and tough. They were no longer sent home at the end of a battle.

The Start of the Roman Army

How did the growth of the army affect who joined?

Did having a larger army affect how the soldiers were equipped?

Did the Romans change how they ran the army the larger it got?

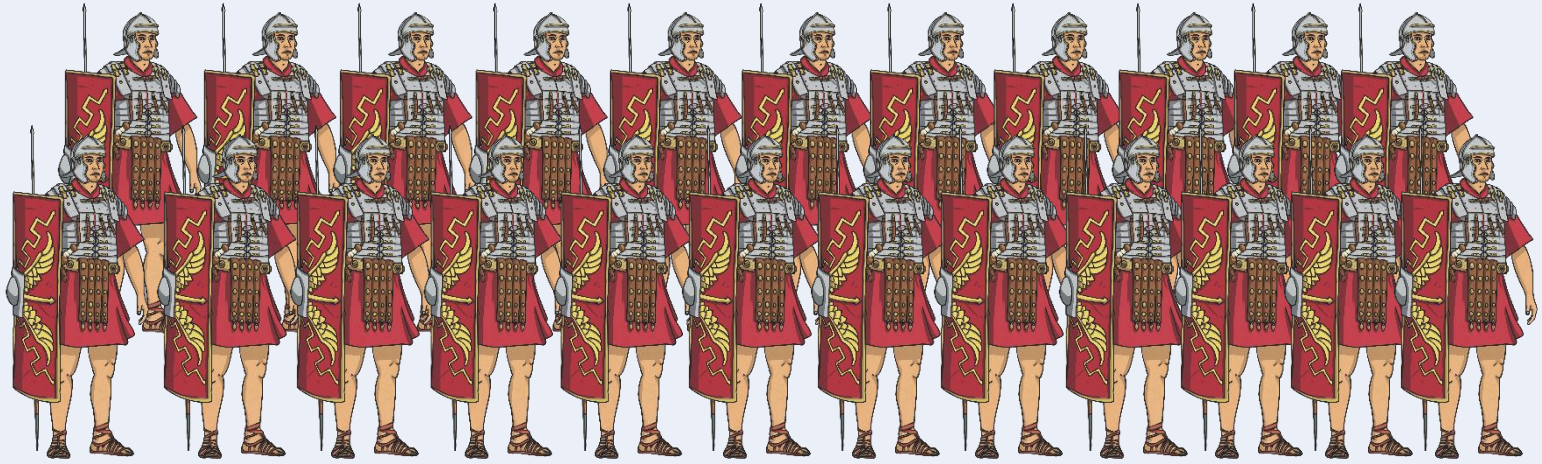
The Start of the Roman Army

Roman soldiers were grouped into larger numbers called legions. There were about 30 of these at different times.

Legions were divided into 10 cohorts of 480 men.

Cohorts were divided into 6 centuries of about 80 men led by a centurion.

Centuries were divided into 10 groups of 8 men who shared a tent or barrack room.



How Did You Become a Legionary?

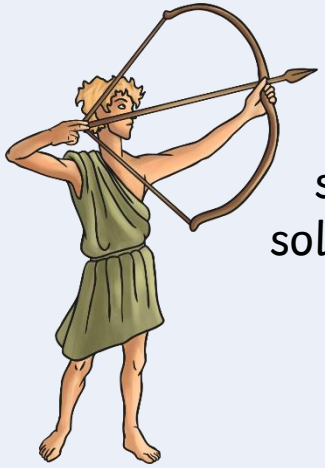


The legions were made up of recommended Roman citizens.

Recruits had to be 25 and in the army for at least 20 years.

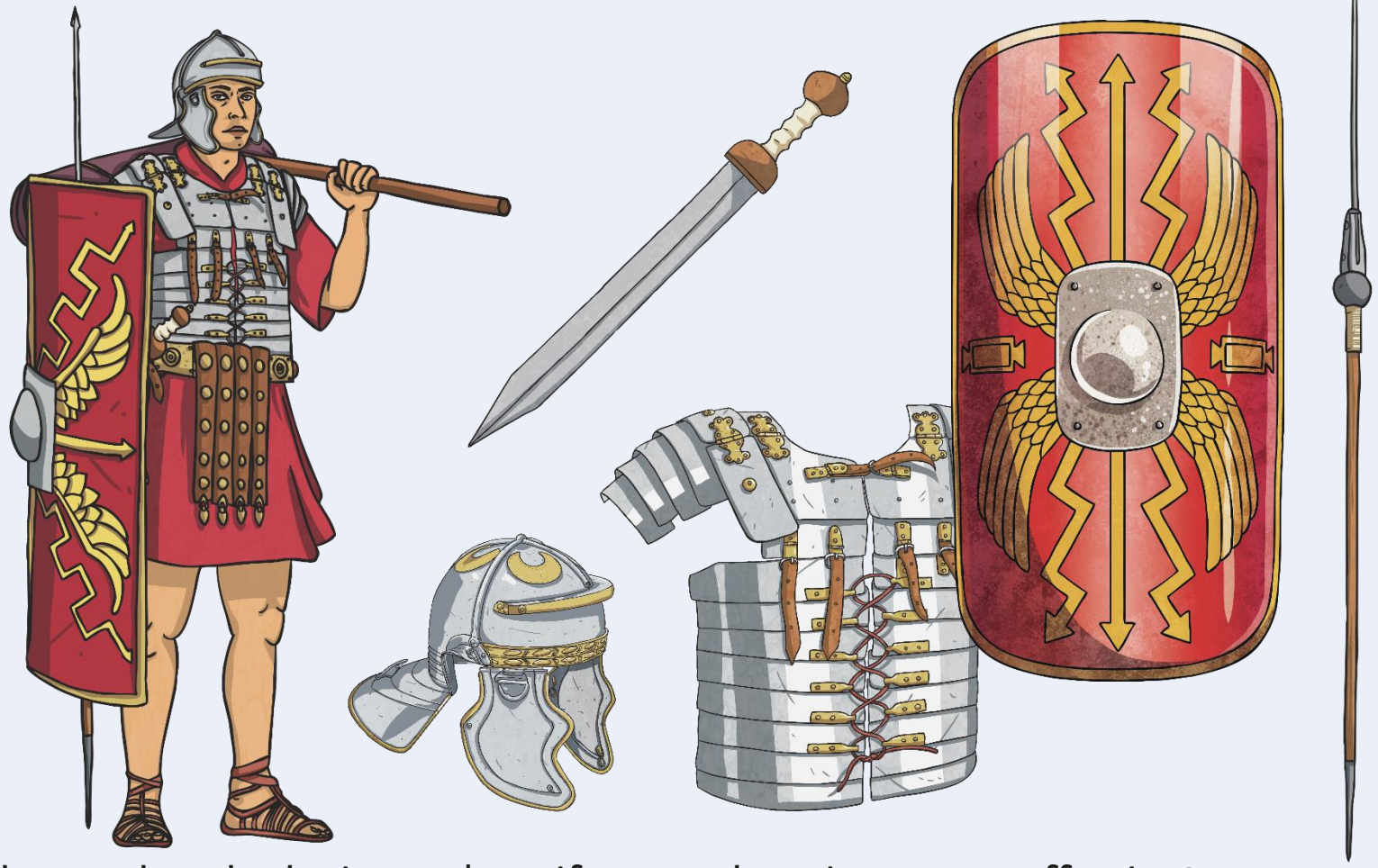
Legionaries were not allowed to be married whilst they were in the army.

What If You Were Not a Roman Citizen?



Soldiers could join as an auxiliary. Auxiliaries often had special skills such as horse riding and archery. The auxiliary soldiers would receive citizenship when they retired.

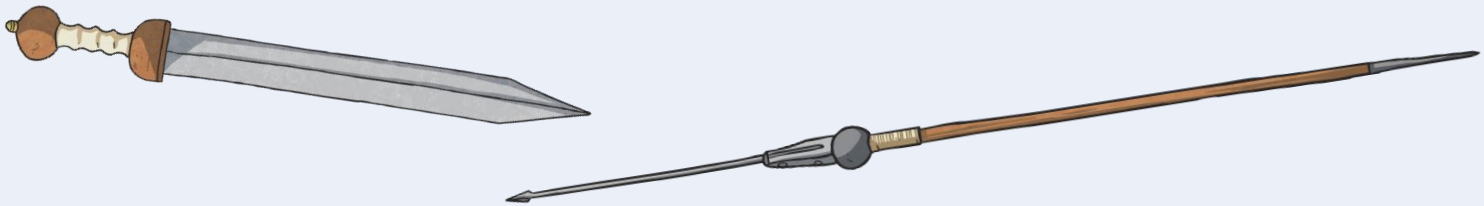
Legionary's Uniform



What makes the legionary's uniform and equipment so effective?

Legionary's Training

- Learn to build camps, swim, sling stones, ride horses, mount and dismount horses fully armed with his shield and no stirrups.
- Do a drill once a day, twice if he was a recruit.
- March 30km, three times a month, wearing his armour which weighed 20kg.
- Learn how to use a sword, spear and fight mock battles with weapons which had covered tips for safety.



Legionary's Training



The Turtle was used to advance towards the enemy by creating a shell out of shields around a group of soldiers.



The Wedge was used to divide the enemy by the legion creating a 'V'.



The Repel Cavalry was used to protect against soldiers on horses. Soldiers used their shield as protection and threw spears.



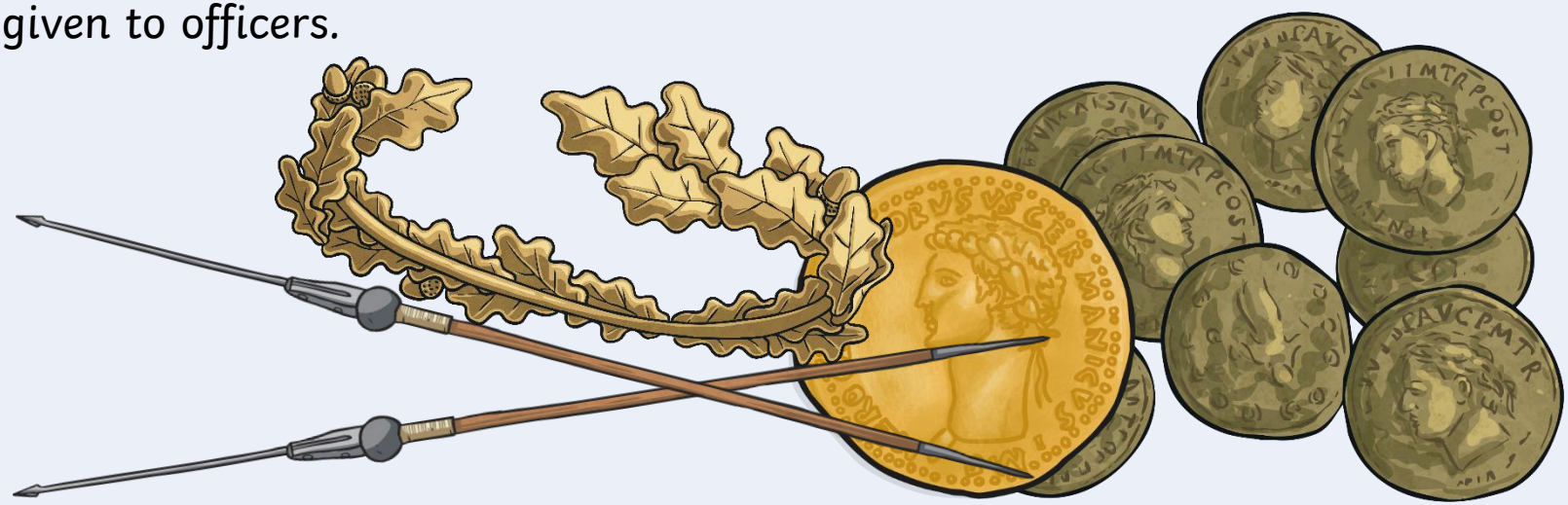
The Orb was used when the army had been split. The legionaries would protect the archers and officers.

Punishments and Rewards

Discipline was very harsh. Soldiers were beaten if they did not follow orders.

Deserters and soldiers who left their post or fell asleep whilst on look-out were beaten to death by their fellow soldiers.

On a more positive note, there were awards for bravery for different ranks, such as medals, arm and neck bands. Gold crowns and silver spears were given to officers.



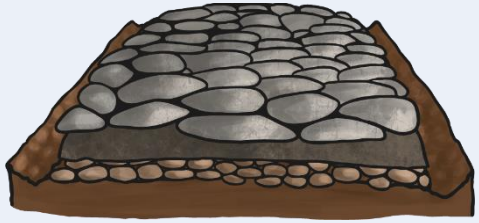
What else did soldiers do?

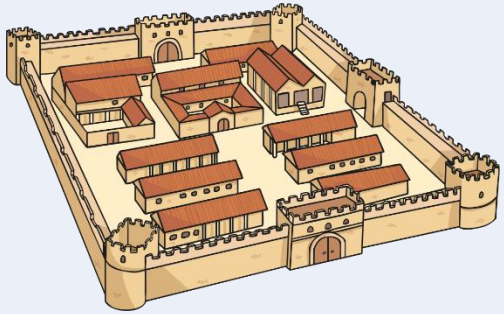
Surely soldiers did not spend all their time fighting. What other jobs did soldiers do?

As well as fighting major battles, the legions built forts, bridges and roads. When they were on a campaign, they built a camp and fortified them with banks and ditches at the end of the day.

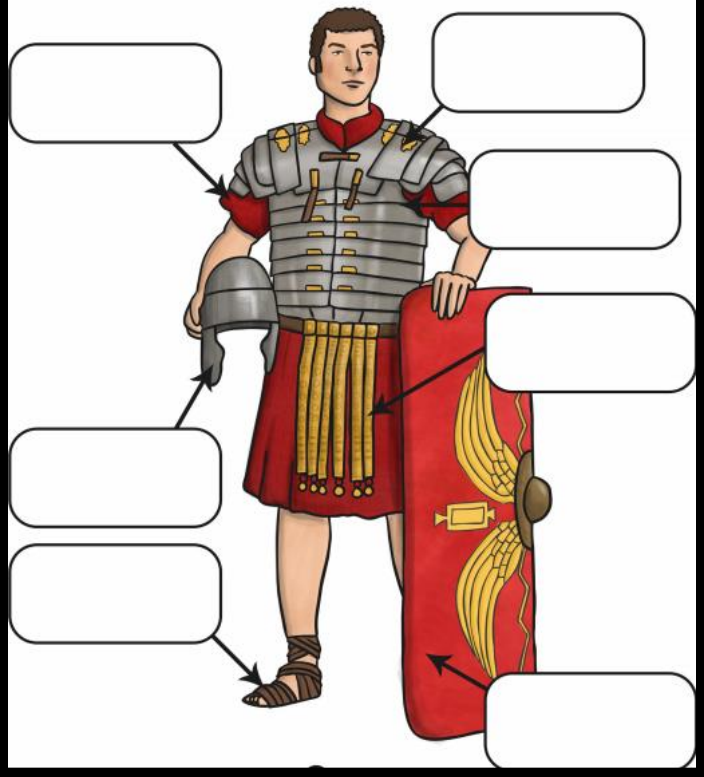
What did soldiers do in their spare time?

During their spare time, Roman soldiers may have been able to play board games with counters and dice or visit the baths.





Label a Roman Soldier



Draw a picture of a Roman Soldier and use the information you have to label the drawing.



A Roman Soldier's Uniform

What is it made from?



How does it work?

Advantages



Disadvantages