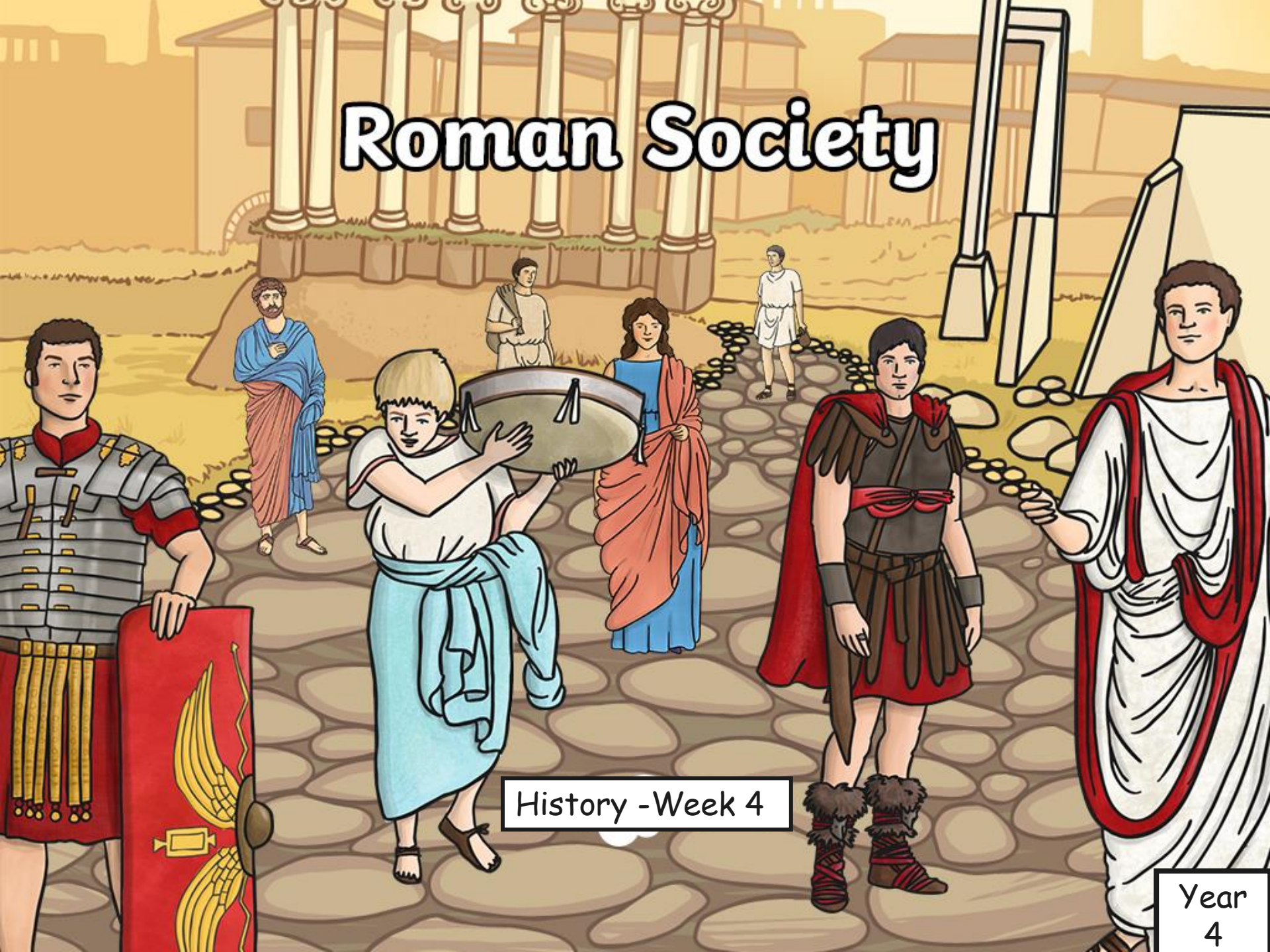
Roman Society



History -Week 4

Year 4

Roman Society
Week 4

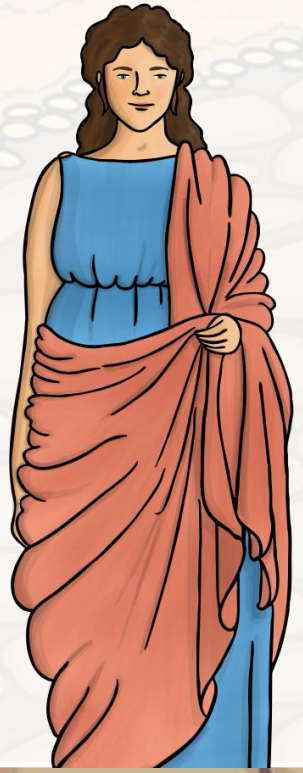
L.O. to learn about the hierarchy of Roman society.

twinkl.com

Roman Society

In Roman society, people were not seen as equals.

You were either a citizen, a non-citizen (also known as provincials) or a slave.





twinkl.com

Roman Slavery

Most Romans accepted slavery. Slaves could be men, women, girls or boys.

If you had been captured in battle, it was likely that you may be made to become a slave. You were then sent back to Rome and sold.

Abandoned children were taken as slaves.

Sometimes, fathers could even choose to sell their older children into the slave trade if they were desperate for money.



twinkl.com

Roman Citizenship



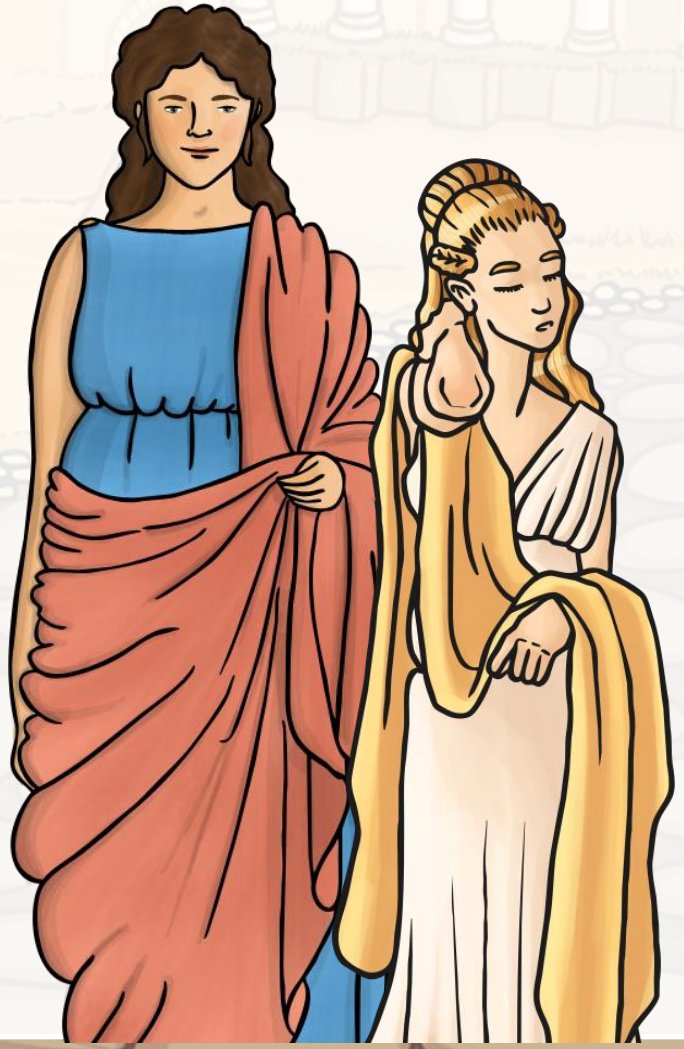
In the rest of society, Roman people, who weren't slaves, could be granted Roman citizenship if they were considered worthy, e.g. a soldier who had served for many years.

Roman citizenship brought privileges such as the right to vote (unless you were a woman), the right to a lawful marriage or a fair trial.

No Roman citizen could ever receive the death penalty unless they were found guilty of treason.

twinkl.com

Women and Girls



Women and girls were not seen as being equal to men and boys. In fact, women and girls were only treated a little better than slaves.

In Roman society, the amount of freedom you had as a woman was decided by your wealth and who your father or husband was.

Free women were classed as Roman citizens but didn't have the rights of a full citizen. For example, they weren't allowed to vote or become involved in politics.

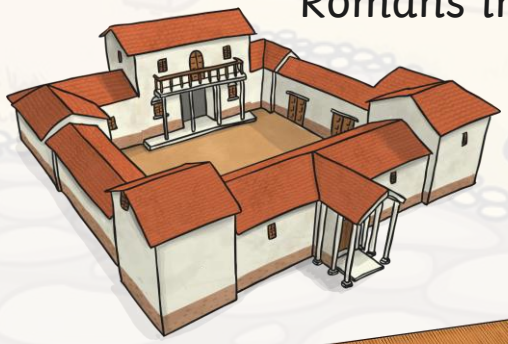
twinkl.com

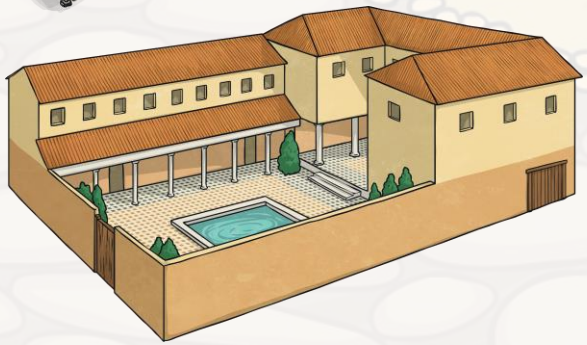
Homes

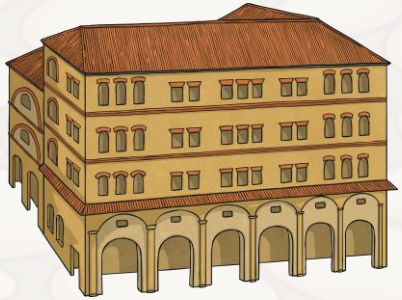
Poor Romans in the countryside lived in small villages of wooden huts with thatched roofs.



A Roman villa was a luxurious estate for rich Romans in the countryside.







Poor Romans in towns and cities lived in Insulae.

A domus was a type of house in the city in which a rich Roman would have lived.

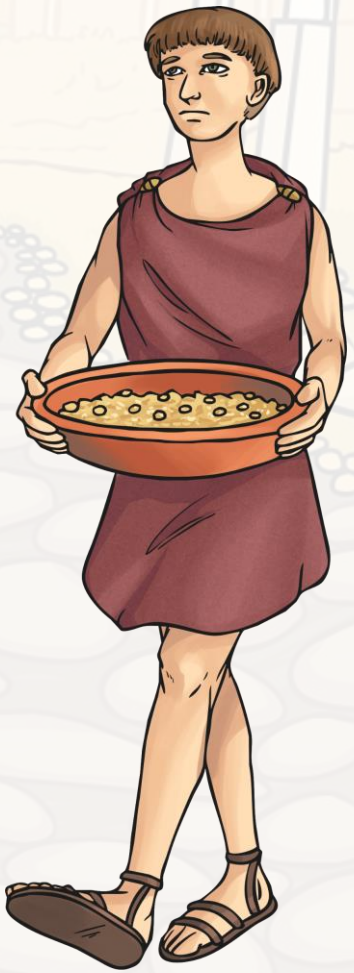
twinkl.com

Jobs

Farmers – Roman farmers used to grow lots of wheat as it would be used to make bread.

Merchants – Merchants were people who sold and bought things from around the Empire. They helped to make the Empire rich.

Craftsmen – Craftsmen were skilled people who would create items. These could range from fine jewellery, to pots and weapons for the Empire.



twinkl.com

Jobs

Soldiers – Many poor people chose to become soldiers as it guaranteed a regular wage and were given land once they finished their 25 year service.

Lawyers, teachers and engineers - Educated Romans could do these jobs.

Entertainers – This included actors, musicians, dancers, chariot racers and gladiators.

Government – This included many jobs such as clerks and tax collectors, but also included Senators. Senators were high-ranking and were very rich and powerful.

twinkl.com

Plebeians

Plebeians were the working class. They generally lived in very crowded, basic apartments.

Most plebeians were soldiers, farmers, bakers, builders or craftsmen. They were also usually Roman citizens.



twinkl.com

Patricians

The patricians were at the top of Roman society. They were the ruling classes and were always Roman citizens.

Patricians were very wealthy and made up a very small percentage of the Roman society.

These people could trace their ancestry back to the founding of Rome.



twinkl.com

The Emperor and Senate

The Emperor controlled the Roman Empire and had a very luxurious life with the best of everything.

He was advised by the Senate, who were a group of men (senators) made up of the wealthy, upper classes from powerful families.

Being a senator was a very prestigious and highly respected position.

Once you became a senator, you held the position for the rest of your life.



twinkl.com



Emperor



Nobles



Soldiers



Merchants



Artisan



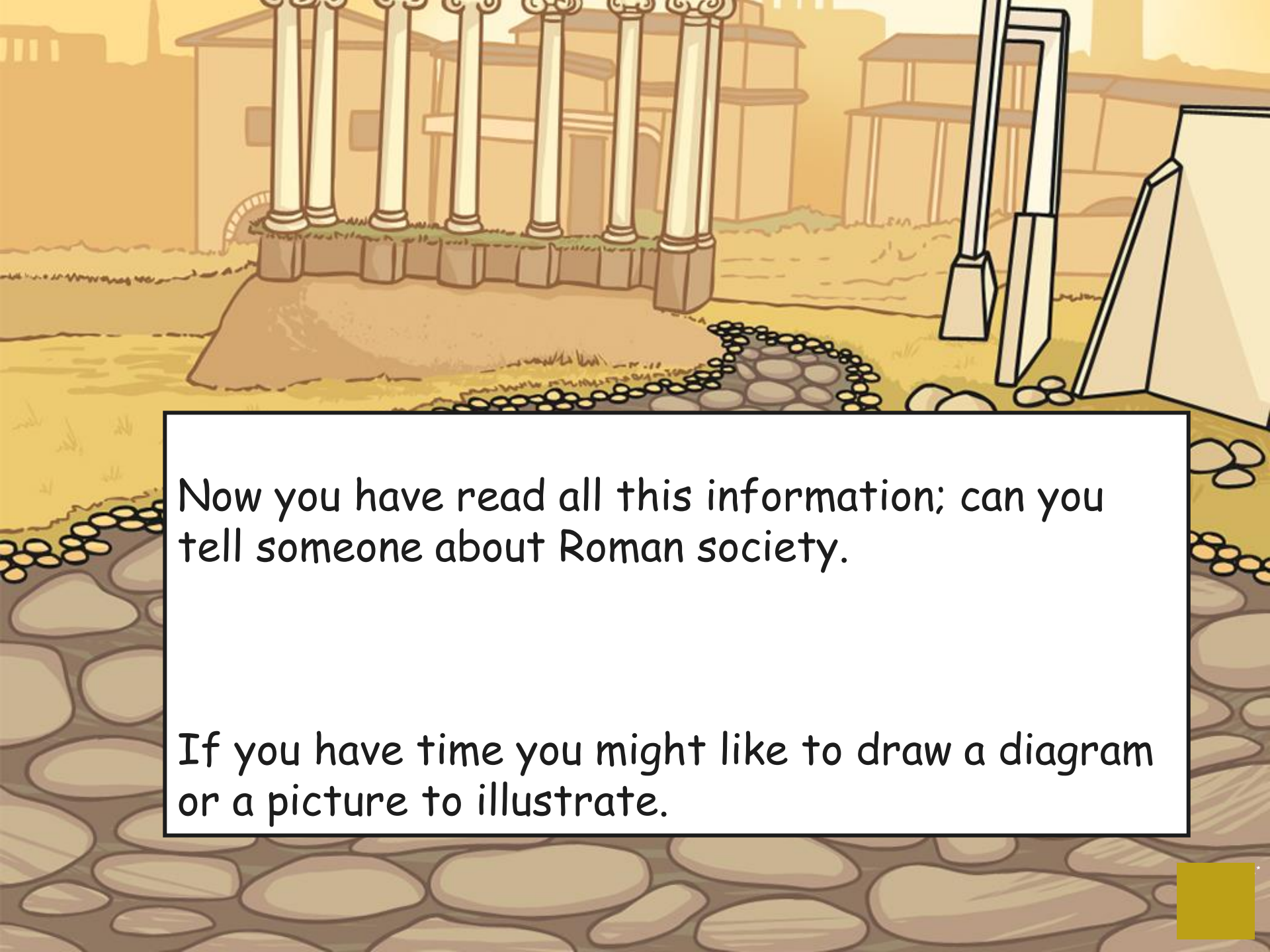
Farmers



Slaves



Gladiators



Now you have read all this information; can you tell someone about Roman society.

If you have time you might like to draw a diagram or a picture to illustrate.