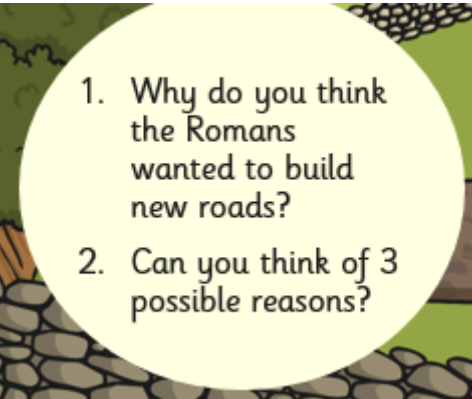


Before the Roman Roads



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 3 possible reasons?



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.



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

Better links between places was good for trading.

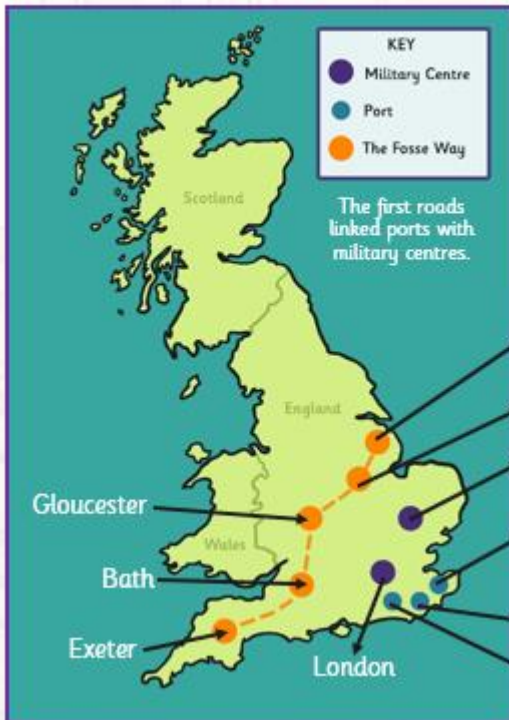


Roman Roads

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



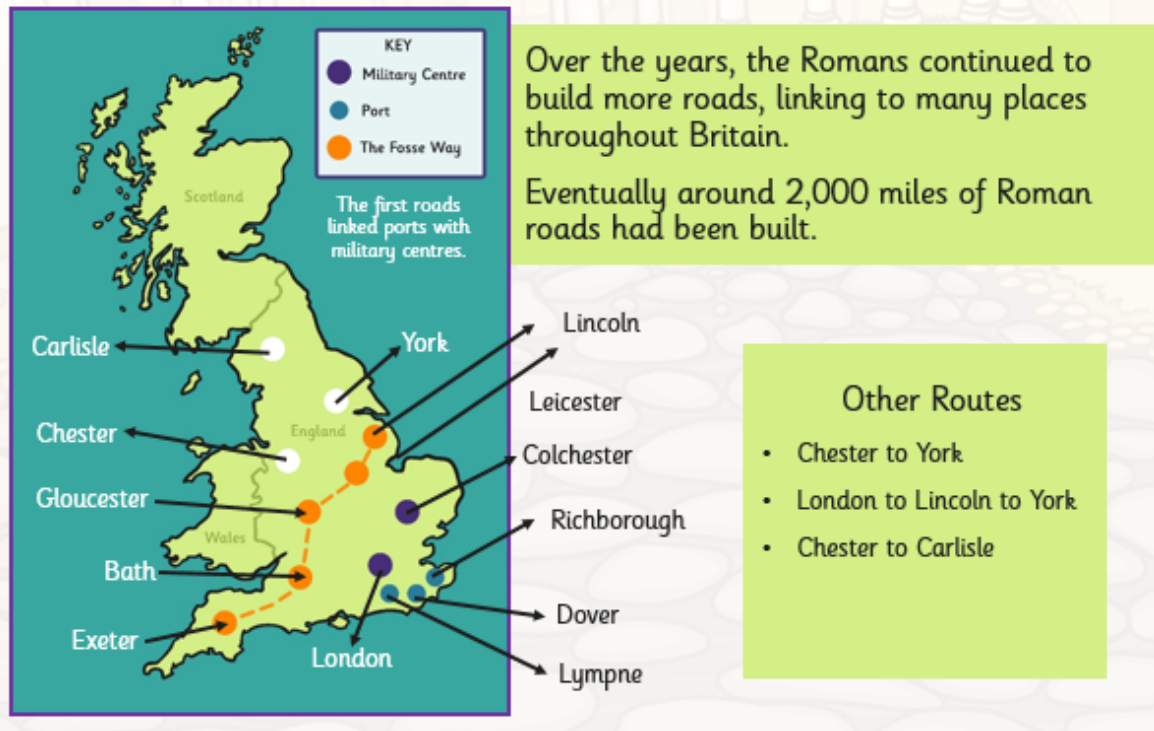
The First Roman Roads



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

Can you find The Fosse Way on the map?

More Roman Roads



Now watch this clip - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/clips/zdgrkqt> which will explain how they built the roads.

How did they build the roads?

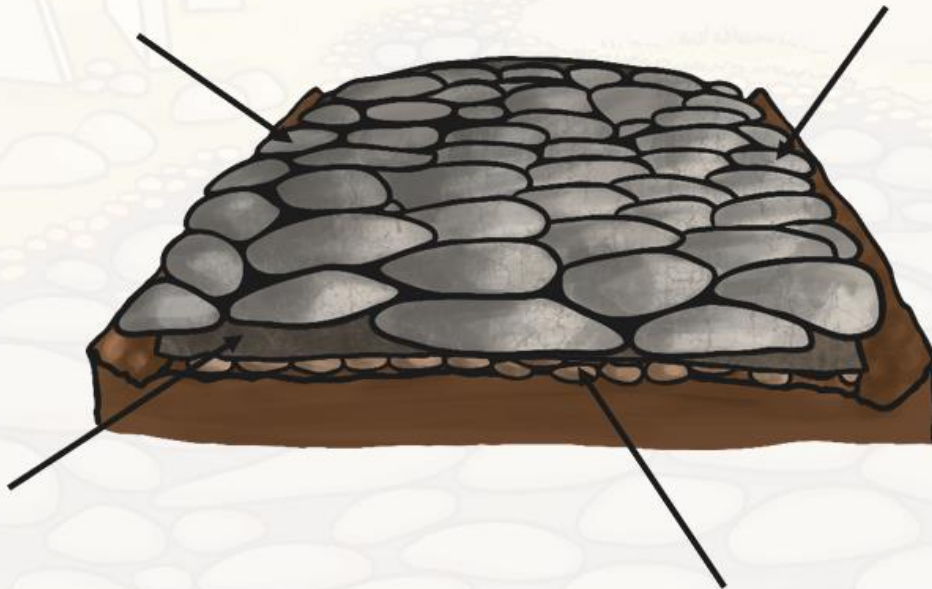
To build a Roman road we would need to:



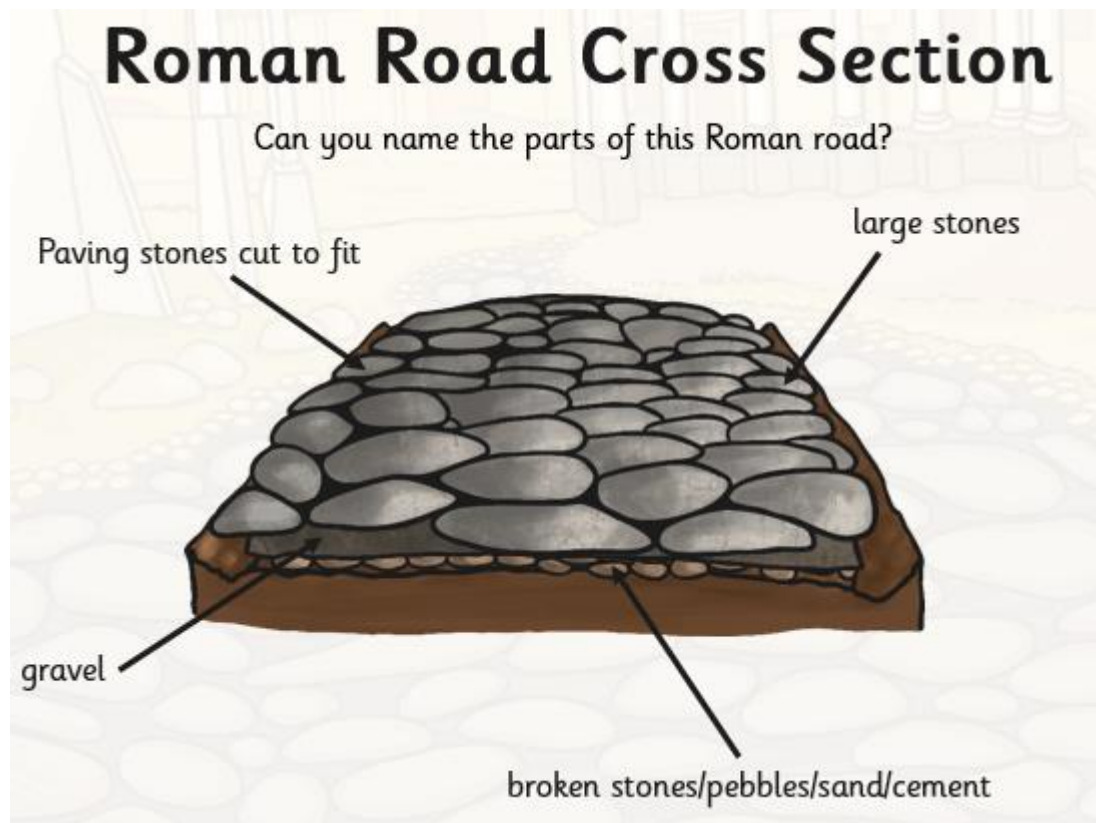
1. Dig two ditches, each 2ft wide.
2. Put all the earth in the middle to make a camber so that rain will drain off into the ditches.
3. Spread gravel on top to make a smooth and compact surface.
4. Add rough stones to make a hard surface.

Roman Road Cross Section

Can you name the parts of this Roman road?



Were you correct?



Now you have read the information, design a poster titled – ‘Roman Roads in Britain’ Think about the work we have done in class about non-fiction writing – use of heading, full sentences to explain why, pictures – maybe you could draw one of the maps above to show where the main Roman roads went or the cross section and explain how they were built.

You could also use the following websites to find out more information

<https://kidskonnnect.com/history/roman-roads/>

<http://www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/romans/roads.htm>