

Ellie's Roman Life Explorer

Learning objective: To identify and describe key features of a Roman settlement or villa, understanding the daily lives of people in Roman Britain.

Ellie the elephant is visiting a Roman villa! Use the word bank to label your drawing, and use the prompt below to help you sketch a typical Roman home scene.

Draw: Draw a large Roman villa cutaway scene. Include a central courtyard garden (peristyle) with columns. In the main room, draw a colourful geometric pattern on the floor for the mosaic. Underneath the floor, sketch small brick pillars to show the hypocaust system. Draw a person standing in the garden wearing a tunic. Use a clear, pencil-sketch style with neat labels pointing to the specific features.



Label words: Atrium · Mosaic floor · Hypocaust · Toga · Tunic · Villa · Peristyle

Steps:

1. Identify the heating system used by Romans to warm their floors. Why was this important in Britain?
2. List two features shown in your drawing that tell us the homeowner was wealthy.
3. What is the difference between a tunic and a toga?
4. Label the 'Atrium' on your drawing. What was the purpose of this room in a Roman house?
5. Draw a pattern on the floor of your house to represent a Roman mosaic. Why did Romans create these?