Topics to research for Rome/Italy Unit

1. **The Republic of Rome and Etruscans**

When did Rome begin? Who started Rome? Where did it start? Who were the

Carthaginians, Gauls and Etruscans? What have archaeologist discovered about

these people? Who founded Rome? What is Alba Longa? What Language did they speak? What is the legend of Romulus and Remus?

2. **Buildings in Ancient Rome**

What kinds of buildings were there in ancient Rome? Were there temples? Describe them. What did their houses look like? Did they have plumbing in their homes? What are aqueducts? How did they work? Are the ruins of them still around today? Describe public baths. Did they have baths the size of swimming pools? Did they use concrete? Was this an invention of the Romans? Describe the Patheon - put a picture in your slideshow. Describe the Colosseum – put a picture of it in your slideshow.

3. **Roman Government and Senate**

What is a consul in ancient Rome? What is the senate in ancient Rome? Who were the plebeians? What is a republic in ancient Rome? Did they vote? How did their government influence our government today in the US. Did they have debates? Who mad the laws in ancient Rome? Did they have trials? What were the Twelve Tables?

4. **The Punic Wars**

Who fought in the Punic War? What were they fighting about in each Punic War? How many wars were in the Punic Wars? Who was Hannibal and what did he do? How did Hannibal use elephants in the war? Did Rome become the commercial center of the world after these wars? What was a Roman soldier called? What were the commanders called? Describe their uniforms.

5. **Julius Caesar**

Who was he? What did he do in ancient Rome? What is the First Triumvirate? Was Caesar a dictator? What is a dictator? What is Caesar remembered for? Were Caesar’s “friends” (Cassius and Brutus)ever jealous of him? What did they try to do to him? What is a famous quote from Caesar?

6. **The Roman Empire**

Did the Roman leaders want to rule the entire world? What countries did the Romans invade? How did they “move” from place to place? Did others use their language and customs once they were invaded? When did the empire reach its greatest size? Where did it stretch from (from what country to what country)? When did it begin to decline (go away)? How long did the eastern half exist? How long did the western half exist? What caused the eastern half to decline? What caused the western half to decline?

7. **Women of Rome**

Some of these women are goddesses, others are not. Describe what they did of importance in ancient Rome and who they were: Juno, Livia, Minerva, Cleopatra, Agrippina, Julia, Antonia, Calpurnia.

8. **Emperors of Ancient Rome after Caesar**

Tell about Octavian, Marc Antony, and others. Did they have peace and prosperity or disaster and chaos? Look up information about Caligula and Nero-were they nice leaders? Tell about them.

9. **Daily Life in Ancient Rome**

Did the poor have to work in ancient Rome? Did they have a caste system in ancient Rome? What were the different social classes called? Where did most poor people live? Where did wealthy people live in ancient Rome? What did most poor people eat? What did wealthy people eat in ancient Rome? What did their clothes look like in ancient Rome? Did the wealthy have slaves? What did their homes look like? Could all Romans vote? Did the Romans take naps?

10. **Entertainment in Ancient Rome**

What did the ancient Romans do for entertainment? Did they have theater and plays? What is a Circus Maximus? What were gladiator contests? Tell about the Colosseum. What about chariot and horse races? Did they have sporting events? How were the public baths a social occasion? How often did they bathe? What is an epitaph and how was it used in ancient Rome?

11. **Pompeii**

What is Pompeii? What happened to it? When did this event happen? What is Vesuvius? Were people buried alive? Were there any survivors? How do we know about Pompeii? What is there now?

12. **Children in Ancient Rome**

Did all boys and girls go to school in ancient Rome? If they went to school, what subjects did they study? What were some games the ancient Roman children played? What kinds of toys did the children have to play with? What clothes did ancient Roman children wear? Describe them. At what age did children become adults? What age did they marry? What kind of chores did children in ancient Rome have?

13. **Money and Trade in Ancient Rome**

Did the Romans pay taxes? Did they have money? Did they barter? What are denarii? Did they trade? What products were traded? What did they export? What did they import? What containers did they store things in? How did they move their products from one place to another?