Big Idea

The Pax Romana Brings Prosperity to Rome

Essential Question

What led to the Roman Golden Age or Pax Romana?
Let’s Set The Stage...

The assassination of Julius Caesar, the Roman dictator, in 44 B.C.E. led to two decades of civil war as rival leaders tried to take control of Rome. Eventually, Caesar’s great nephew, Augustus, defeated his rivals and united Roman-controlled lands as the Roman Empire. He expanded Rome’s borders to cover most of Europe and the areas of Asia and North Africa surrounding the Mediterranean Sea. Augustus’ rule started a two-hundred year long Golden Age known as Pax Romana. Pax Romana means “Roman Peace” in Latin and is used to identify the years during which there were fewer wars than in any other period in Rome’s history.
Pax Romana

During the Pax Romana, Rome's government became more powerful. Trade and communication also flourished during this time.
The Romans experienced a “golden age”. There were great achievements in architecture, engineering, literature, science and the arts.
Architecture

The Romans used new construction techniques and new materials to design new structures such as the dome and the arch.

These projects were backed by the government which funded, organized and spread them around the Roman world.
Roman Aqueducts

Aqueducts, with single, double or triple tiers of arches, were designed to carry fresh water to urban (city) centers from sources sometimes many miles away.

The Colosseum

The Colosseum was the largest and most famous amphitheater in the Roman Empire. Underground rooms below the arena floor hid people, animals and props until they were needed for the shows that were put on.
Roads

The Romans built roads throughout their Empire.

Sculptures
Roman Mosaics

The Romans made mosaics which were images made with small pieces of colored glass, stone or other materials.

The Romans had many famous authors and poets. Virgil was regarded by the Romans as their greatest poet. His fame rests chiefly upon the Aeneid, which tells the story of the founding of Rome.
Roman Medicine
Roman medicine was greatly influenced by ancient Greece. Rome also made its own unique contribution to the history of medicine.

Essential Question Answered
What led to the Roman Golden Age or Pax Romana?

After decades of civil war, Rome experienced a two-hundred year long Golden Age known as the Pax Romana.

Pax Romana means “Roman Peace” and is used to identify the years during which there were fewer wars than in any other period in Rome’s history.
Essential Question Answered

What led to the Roman Golden Age or Pax Romana?

Trade and communication flourished during Rome’s Pax Romana.

During this time there were also cultural and scientific achievement in areas such as art, science, literature and architecture.