



ROMAN OIL LAMPS



TWILIGHT AT HOME

Try spending an evening like a Roman during winter. The Ancient Romans did not have electricity – they used candles, torches and oil lamps made out of clay to see in the dark. Roman oil lamps give off as much light as a modern tea light. They would be filled with oil and the wick lit.

YOU WILL NEED:

- Assortment of: candles and tea lights (you can use Christmas, fairy lights or torches if you prefer).
- Something to light the candles (always ask a grown up to do this)
- An activity to try in candle light

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Wait for it to start turning dark.
2. With the help of an adult place tealights, candles and fairy lights around the room.
3. Ask an adult to light the candles or turn the fairy lights on. The Romans did not have electricity so turn off all other lights and electrical equipment.
4. Try an activity by candlelight: play a game, eat a meal together or make shadows on the wall.

EXTRA CHALLENGE:

Try not to use any electric lights for the rest of the evening (no cheating). If you need to move around your home take a torch or another battery powered source of light with you. Take extra care if you try this to avoid any slips, trips or falls.



Want to find out more about Roman oil lamps and the Romans? Why not check out:

<https://www.classics.cam.ac.uk/museum/things-to-do/things-to-do-at-home-1>