

# Crayola.com Inspiring Ideas

## Racing Roman Gladiators



### Crayola Supplies

- Model Magic®
- Glitter Glue

### Other Supplies

### Why?

Ancient Rome's Circus Maximus was definitely an adrenaline rush! Construct a gladiator's chariot and start your own races.

### How?

1. Put on your helmet! Wrap the reins for four horses around your wrists. Take off on a two-wheeled chariot! Gladiators in ancient Rome's Circus Maximus used their body weight to control their harnessed steeds. They raced seven laps around a track in front of 150,000 spectators!
2. Long ago, chariots were used in battle and pulled by mules and oxen. The Greeks were the first to race them. Step back in time to join the excitement! Roman chariots were specialized, lighter versions of regular vehicles, just like today's race cars. Red, green, and white were the most popular colors.
3. Shape Crayola Model Magic® into a chariot with two wheels. Form a gladiator to stand inside the vehicle. Can you figure out a way to make the wheels turn? (Hint: toothpicks, drinking straws, or paperclips.) You could add extra touches such as string for reins, too. Why not make the horses while you're at it? And a stadium!
4. Show the power and glory of your racing team with Crayola Glitter Glue highlights. Air-dry before you join the throng!

## When and Where Suggestions?

- "By looking at Greek vases and wall mosaics in a museum, we saw what chariots really looked like—NOT the Hollywood version." Geraldine D., mother of 9-year-old twins.
- "We traced the history of the circus from religious gatherings and funeral games to places for political agendas to entertainment." Tim E., volunteer youth coordinator.

## Interesting Information

Roman Emperor Nero signaled to show he had finished his lunch and the races could begin again by tossing his napkin into the ring. This story started a tradition that is still used to begin races today.

## Safety Guidelines

Safety guidelines recommend this art project is suitable for children age 4 years and older. Close adult supervision is required to ensure children's safety.

Model Magic® and other modeling compounds: Keep finished product away from open flame. Do not mold into candleholders or other like items for use around flame. Do not put in oven, microwave, or kiln.

Glitter Glue: WARNING: CHOKING HAZARD -- Small parts. Not intended for children younger than 3 years of age. Not intended for use as face/skin paint.

## Related Books

Gladiator by Richard Watkins

Gladiators: 100 BC-AD 200 by Stephen Wisdom

Lift the Lid on Gladiators: Enter the Roman Coliseum and Prepare for Combat by Don Nardo

You Wouldn't Want to Be a Roman Gladiator! Gory Things You'd Rather Not Know by John Malam

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