

## Build your own Triumphal Roman Arch

The Romans built decorative arches to honour famous emperors or generals and their victories in battles. Some had only one arch in a square building while others had three in a rectangular one. Statues and carvings were placed over the surfaces and columns decorated it. There was usually carved writing to explain who the honoured people were. The arches were placed over roads so traffic could pass through.



This is a picture of the Arch of Constantine, in Rome. It has statues on it and carved scenes of battles and important events on all its sides.

Close up of part of the Arch of Septimius Severus, showing scenes of people, animals, boats and a winged figure.



Here's a simple cardboard box Triumphal Arch for you to make and decorate. You could do scenes from your life or statues of your family to stick on. Originally the carved decorations would have been painted, so you can use your imagination to colour your own. Have fun! (And remember to thank your adult assistant!)

## What You Will Need

A cardboard box

Glue and double-sided sticky tape

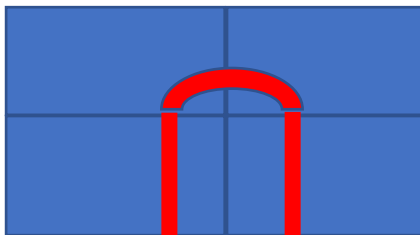
Scissors and a craft knife

Paint, crayons, pens, pencils

An adult, to help with the cutting

## How To Make Your Arch

Take your box and find the centre points along the top and the bottom. Draw a line from top to bottom, so there are two halves. Do the same from side to side. Now draw an arch in the middle, using the guidelines, to make it curve just above where they cross. Draw lines from the curve to the bottom.



Use your adult to cut out the archway with a craft knife or scissors! (If you want 3 arches just repeat this on either side of the middle one. Make these arches just a bit smaller.) You then need to repeat this on the other side of the box, so you have arches all through the box.



Once you have the arches cut out you can cover the box with paper, paint it or ask your adult to spray paint it all over in a stone colour.

Now you can make decorative columns and scenes to glue to the monument – use any extra card left over from cutting the arches, or stickers or other bits and pieces. Colour them in with pens or crayons or paint.



Remember to share your creations with us by email or on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram!