

A ROMAN LAMP

THE LIGHTING OF HOUSES

WHAT DO THE MUSEUM PIECES TELL US ABOUT?

Have you ever wondered how the houses were lit in Roman times? In the National Archaeological Museum of Tarragona there are different oil lamps that allow us to imagine how it would be. All of them are decorated with different scenes. Do you know what this one is about? Come to the Museum to find out!

Although the use of lamps will be very widespread in Roman times and they used molds to make them, today we propose you to make one manually to experience how the lighting would be at night.



Roman lamp, s. I aC

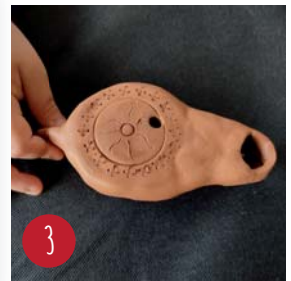
SHALL WE EXPERIMENT?



Make the lower part and the sides of the lamp with clay .



Make the top, add a hole in it and decorate it as you like!



Attach the two parts together leaving a hole in the front. You can add a handle at the back.



In Roman times they lit the lamps with olive oil. Put a candle in the front hole and experience what artificial lighting was like. You can make the lamp with gauze or absorbent cotton.