

Ideas for background information for introduction of research report

Remember, do not include information in your background section that is one of your topics!

Cleopatra:

- where she lived, the time period of her rule (Ruled 51 B.C. to 30 B.C.)
- Contemporary ideas about Cleo:
 - legendary beauty, royal, powerful
 - example of powerful ruler in ancient times
 - name is one of the most recognizable names of a queen
 - (father died when young) spent most of adult life fighting Rome
- brought powerful men to their knees!
- Facts about her not included in paragraphs:
 - member of Ptolemy dynasty in Egypt – descendant of Alexander the Great
 - Not Egyptian – she was Greek!
 - Last great pharaoh of Egypt
 - intelligent: spoke 7 languages

Gladiators:

- **MUST INCLUDE:** time period of gladiators...popular in Rome earliest 310 B.C.
- Background ideas:
- Arenas held thousands of people (50,000)
- “Hail Caesar! Those who are about to die salute you!” (in Latin)
- Idolized as heroes – began as religious events and slowly lost meaning in \$\$ and fame
- there were female gladiators
- fight to honor the deceased at funerals
- men fought in bloody contests to the death (often but not always)
- Emperor decided fate of loser, or the people sometimes did
- fought animals – lions, tigers, bears, etc.
- Adored and idolized like sports heroes of today
- “the sigh and glory of the girls”