

Greek & Latin Roots

Many of the words we use in the English language started in Ancient Greece or Rome. In Rome they spoke Latin. These words are now part of the words we use today. When you are reading you may find words that are easier to understand if you know the meaning of the Greek and Latin root words. A root word is the main part of the word such as the root word of **sadly** is **sad**.

The Ancient Greece Civilization became strong as early as 2000 B.C. **Alexander the Great** helped spread the Ancient Greek Empire. Later, the Roman Empire took over the region in the 140s B.C... **Julius Caesar** was a Roman leader during part of the Ancient Roman Empire.

Both languages and culture survived and today we use many words from them. Most of our scientific words came from Greece. As you read this year I will be asking you to find words with Greek and Latin roots. This week you will start by studying five roots and two phrases. Origin

	Root	Meaning	Examples
1. Latin	aqua (or aqu)	water	aqua, aqualung, aquamarine, aquarium
2. Greek	bio	life	autobiography, biology, biography
3. Greek	gen	birth	generate, generation, progeny
4. Latin	mater (or matr)	mother	alma mater, maternal, maternity
5. Latin	spec(t)	see, look	inspect, spectacle, spectator
6. Latin	et cetera (phrase)	and other things -OR- and so forth	

Write a list of the example words then underline the Greek or Latin Root

1. Aqua

- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____
- d. _____
- e. _____

2. bio

- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____

3. gen

- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____

4. mater

- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____

5. spec

- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____

STUDY THESE ROOTS for the QUIZ on FRIDAY.