Self-Guided Activities

Roman Mosaics

The Romans used mosaics to decorate their homes. Take a closer look at this floor mosaic.

**Mosaic** is a type of art that uses small objects, called **tesserae**, to create larger pictures or patterns.

**Tesserae** can be made of glass, marble, or tile.

What shapes do you see?

If you made a mosaic, what shapes would you use?

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_**Mosaic Floor from the Villa of Daphne**_, Roman Imperial period, 5th century C.E., from Yakto Complex, near Antioch, Mosaic, overall: 157 1/2 in. x 156 in., Given by the Princeton Expedition for the Excavation of Antioch and Vicinity, 1936.33.

Detail from _Mosaic Floor from the Villa of Daphne_