

# Online Information

## The Mystery at the Roman Colosseum

# Fascinating Facts

## Italy

- The Leaning Tower of Pisa began sinking before it was even finished! It continues to lean to the south a tiny bit more each year.
- Italy covers about 116,000 square miles. That makes it slightly larger than the state of Arizona!
- Don't you wonder where the street signs are in Venice? Street names are written on small white squares on the outside of buildings on the street.
- Bocce is a popular sport in Italy. It's a lot like bowling—the object of the game is to roll balls as close as possible to a target ball.
- Many historians believe that the first eyeglasses were produced in Italy in the late 13th century. Now, that was a great idea!
- The city of Pompeii was buried by a huge volcanic explosion in 79 AD. One historian who witnessed it described how the sea was sucked away and came crashing back over the land. Today we call that a tsunami!
- All the gondolas in Venice must be painted black unless they are the property of a high government official.

