

## ***Making and Using Imperial Headgear: Diadems, Radiate Crowns, and Laurel Wreaths***

*One way to help students identify what they're seeing on the obverse or "heads" side of their coins is to show them tangible examples of what different emperors might be wearing. Without too much trouble, you can make a diadem, a radiate crown, and a wreath to use as props in your discussions about Roman imperial coins.*

*Depending on the age of your students, you may be able to persuade them to try the crowns on. If you're up for it, you can model them yourself. Even just passing the crowns around the room is a great way to reinforce what you're teaching about coin obverses. As students begin to study their coins, you can ask them to look for spikes, dots, helmets, or leaves on the emperors' heads. Identifying the type of crown won't take them all that far toward identifying the coin, but it's a valuable first step in learning to observe the details carefully. And because it's something that nearly everyone can do successfully with nearly every coin, you'll be able to start the project out on a high note.*

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