

Year 6 World History: Ancient Greece

Key Learning

The Ancient Greeks were people who lived about 1200BC to 150BC. They are well known for developing a way of living that we still use today.



Ancient Greek myths are still read today. Monsters include Medusa and the minotaur. Heroes include Odysseus and Perseus.

Gods and Goddesses

The Ancient Greeks believed Gods and Goddesses watched over them. They believed that the gods lived in a palace in the clouds and would sometimes interfere with human life below. They could send storms if they were angry and choose who was victorious in wars. They also believed they would play tricks on



Military

The backbone of the Ancient Greek army was the 'Hoplite'; a foot soldier who fought with a long spear and used a large round shield for protection. In ancient time, Greece was not a single country like it is today. It was made up of lots of smaller states. These states often went to war with each other. Sparta and Athens fought a war for 27 years.



Ancient Greek houses were made up of 2 or 3 rooms, built around an open air courtyard or patio. They were made of stone, wood or clay bricks.

Olympics

The Olympics began over 2700 years ago in Olympia, Greece.



The games were part of a religious festival held in honour of Zeus king of the gods, and took place every 4 years.

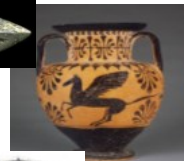
They included events that happen today such as running, long jump and boxing. They also included chariot racing.



Artefacts



arrowheads



pottery



coins

Legacy of the Ancient Greeks

Democracy- A form of government where the people elect (vote for) who they want to represent them.

Theatre- The Ancient Greeks invented the idea of written drama performed by actors.

Pythagoras- An Ancient Greek mathematician and philosopher. His rules and laws are still used in maths today.

Alphabet- The first two letters of the Greek alphabet are alpha and beta. This is where the word alphabet is from.

Letters from the Greek alphabet are still used in some mathematical and scientific equations.



Many words we use today have their origins in Ancient Greece.

Key Vocabulary

Parthenon 	An important Greek temple built in Athens to honour in honour of the goddess Athena.
ancient	Very old
democracy	Decisions about who should lead a country are made by the majority of its people.
Athenians/ Spartans	Athens was an open society, and Sparta was a closed one. Athens was democratic, and Sparta was ruled by a select few. The differences were many.
Olympics	The ancient Olympic Games were a series of athletic competitions among representatives of city-states.
Dictatorship	A form of government in which one person or a small group possesses absolute power.
legacy	Something that is a part of your history or that remains from an earlier time.

Significant People

Alexander the Great Often called the greatest military commander in history, Alexander expanded the Greek empire to its greatest size, never losing a battle. 
Socrates One of the greatest Greek philosophers. He showed how debate and discussion could help men understand difficult issues. 
Pluto A Greek god who rules the land of the dead called the Underworld. 
Homer He was the most famous of the Greek epic poets. He wrote the epic poems the Iliad and the Odyssey. 