

Year 3 Ancient Greece - Spring Term Knowledge Organiser

National Curriculum objectives:

- Ancient Greece - a study of Greek life and achievements and their influence on the western world.



What should I already know?

- Greece is a country in the continent of Europe.
- The climate of Greece is slightly different to that of the UK
- Human and physical geographical features of Greece.

How has Ancient Greece changed the world?

Key vocabulary

- Acropolis**- The citadel of an ancient Greek city.
- Archaeologist**- Someone who studies the past by exploring old remains.
- Architecture**- The art of planning, designing and constructing buildings.
- Citadel**- A strong building in or near a city, where people shelter for safety.
- Civilisation**- A human society with its own organisation and culture.
- Climate**- The general weather conditions.
- Continent**- A very large area of land that consists of many countries. Europe is a continent.
- Culture**- Activities such as the arts and philosophy, which are considered to be important for the development of civilisation.
- Deities**- A god or goddess
- Democracy**- A fair political system where all adults vote for an elected government. This government then makes decisions on how to run the country.
- Human features**- Features of land that have been impacted by human activity.
- Empire**- A number of individual nations that are all controlled by the government or ruler of one particular country.
- Fertile**- Rich in nutrients to support the growth of many plants.
- Merchant**- A person who buys or sells goods in large quantities.
- Mythology**- A group of myths, especially all the myths from a particular country, religion, or culture.
- Philosophy**- The study or creation of theories about basic things such as the nature of existence, knowledge, and thought, or about how people should live.
- Physical features**- Natural features of land.
- Polis**- An ancient Greek city-state.
- Polytheists**- The worship of or belief in more than one god.
- Seafaring**- Working as a sailor or travelling regularly on the sea.
- Society**- People in general, thought of as a large organized group.
- Trade**- The activity of buying, selling, or exchanging



Knowledge:

- Greece was divided into city states (polis) that each had their own laws and way of life, but that all spoke the same language.
- Two of the most well-known city states are Athens and Sparta.
- The legacy of Ancient Greece. Athens. Greek styles of art, architecture, philosophy and theatre were developed - these helped shape our modern society along with science, language and maths.
- Athens had a democratic government - this means that the people who lived there made decisions by voting, like we do in Britain.
- In Sparta, life was very different; all that was important was being able to defend Sparta in battle.
- The first Olympic games were held in 776 in the city-state Olympia.
- Religion was very important in Ancient Greece. They were polytheists - they believed in different gods and goddesses that were in charge of different parts of their lives, such as a god of the sea and a goddess of wisdom. Temples were built in their honour and they featured heavily in the stories of Greek mythology.
- A polis consisted of an urban centre, often fortified and with a sacred centre built on a natural acropolis (citadel) or harbour.
- Physical Geography of Greece: climate zones, rivers etc. How it has changed from Ancient Greece to Modern Greece

Historical skills and enquiry:

- Examine Greek artefacts (such as vases) and use these to make inferences about the past.
- Describe how Greek artefacts and ruins tell us about their culture, military, and religious beliefs.
- Describe how the Greek society has had an impact on modern society.
- Discuss the notion of democracy - compare the democratic process of Ancient Greece with that of modern Britain.
- Examine the timeline of the Greek civilisation and consider where there was rapid change and where there was very little change.
- Explain why this may be the case.
- Compare what was happening in the Greek civilisation with what was happening in Britain at the same time.
- Describe the ideas, beliefs and attitudes of all groups of people in the Greek civilisation.
- Present what you know about the Greeks using a variety of skills (eg. Geography, English, Maths, Computing, etc) Use appropriate vocabulary to communicate about the Greeks.

776 BC
The first Olympic Games.

750 BC
Early Greek Culture

508 BC
Democracy began in Athens

490 BC
Greek Theatre thrives in Athens.

450 BC
Athens becomes a very powerful city and controls an empire.

Ancient Greeks believed in many gods. They were...	Start of unit:	End of unit:
Christians		
Polytheists		
Atheists		
Agnostics		

The Greeks exchanged goods between cities. This is called...	Start of unit:	End of unit:
Trade		
Buying		
Selling		
Stealing		

The Greeks were considered influential to modern society. They contributed (tick all that apply)	Start of unit:	End of unit:
Philosophy		
Theatre		
Language		
Art		
Science		
Maths		

Greece is made up of many islands and is located by the sea. This meant that the Greeks were...	Start of unit:	End of unit:
Seafaring		
Pirates		
Tourists		
Sunbathers		

The Olympics were invented by the Greeks as a...	Start of unit:	End of unit:
Contest for land		
Religious festival		
Ritual for sacrifice		
Method to see who could win the most gold medals		

The Greek empire expanded further under the rule of:	Start of unit:	End of unit:
Homer		
Alexander the Great		

We know how the Ancient Greeks lived because of (tick those that apply)	Start of unit:	End of unit:
Artefacts		
Ruins		
Written accounts		

The Greeks invented democracy. This is when...	Start of unit:	End of unit:
Everybody is allowed to vote on the decisions made by the government.		
The ruler dictates what should happen in a society.		
Priests were in charge.		