

History • World History: Ancient Greeks

Key Learning Question: Where do we see evidence of the Ancient Greeks today?



Crucial Knowledge

We are getting better at investigating the past:

- About 2,500 years ago, Greece was one of the most important places in the ancient world.
- There was never one country called 'ancient Greece'. Instead, Greece was divided up into small city-states like Athens, Sparta, Corinth and Olympia.
- Each city-state ruled itself. They had their own governments, laws and army.
- States often went to war. Sparta and Athens fought a long war, called the Peloponnesian War, from 431-414BC.
- One powerful ruler controlled the whole of Greece. In the 300s BC Alexander the Great joined the Greek states and led an army to conquer an empire that stretched as far as Afghanistan and India.
- The Ancient Greeks developed democracy which is a form of government where the people elect (vote) for who they want to represent them.
- The Ancient Greeks invented the Olympics and the first Olympic Games began over 2,700 years ago in Olympia, in south west Greece.
- The Ancient Greeks were famous for creating temples, pottery and sculptures, which can still be seen today.
- Our alphabet is based on the Greek alphabet. The first two letters of the Greek alphabet are alpha and beta—which is where the word "alphabet" comes from.
- The Ancient Greeks worshipped many gods and goddesses. Zeus was the king of the gods.
- The Greeks had a lot of myths and legends which featured Greek heroes and mythical creatures. Famous Greek heroes included Heracles (The Romans called him Hercules).
- The Ancient Greeks invented theatre and wrote many famous plays.



Key Vocabulary

We are getting better at communicating historically

Democracy: When a country is ruled by the people.

Column: A stone pillar used in Architecture.

Myth: A well known made up story.

Vase: Pottery vessel used for water.

Olympics: Multi-sport competition.

Alphabet: A selection of letters used for writing a language.

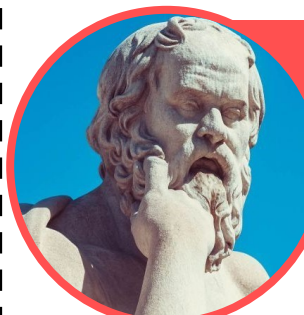
Slave: A person under the control of a master.

We are getting better at interpreting the past:

Big Ideas: Chronology • Civilization • Legacy
• Democracy • Civil War • Religion • Empire

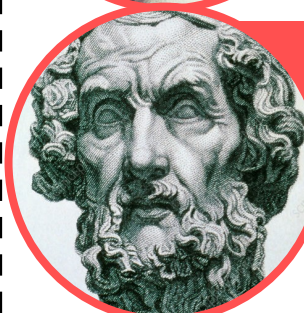


Important People & Places



Socrates

Socrates was a famous philosopher. A philosopher is someone who studies questions around the mind, reason and knowledge. Socrates was interested in studying "morals" (good and bad).



Homer

Homer was a famous poet. He wrote two epic poems called the Iliad and the Odyssey. People still study and read his works today.



Milo of Croton

Milo of Croton was a wrestler from the city of Croton. Legend says he carried a bull on his shoulders, and could burst a band about his brow by inflating the veins of his temples.



We Are Building Our Knowledge From

- Roman Britain (Y4)

This will help when we learn about

- Early Islamic Civilisation (Y5)
- Architecture Through Time (Y6)