

Knowledge Organiser

Facts about Ancient Greece



It is believed that the first Ancient Greek civilisations appeared approximately 4,000 years ago in 1600BC. The Ancient Greek Empire spread from Greece into Europe as far as France in the West.



Greek gods and goddesses were used in tales to help the Ancient Greeks learn about their world. For example, Poseidon ruled over the oceans and all bodies of water and Ares was the God of war, supporting those in battle.



Sparta was a military state and had a full time army. The Spartans were famous for their bravery and aggression and spent their whole lives training and fighting, defending their state at all costs.



The religious site of Olympia hosted the first Olympics Games in 776BC. The Statue of Zeus, one of the Seven Wonders of the World, stood there.



Archaeologists have discovered many artefacts, including pottery which was decorated with scenes of everyday life. The Romans were influenced by the buildings, statues and painting and copied them when they conquered the Greek Empire.

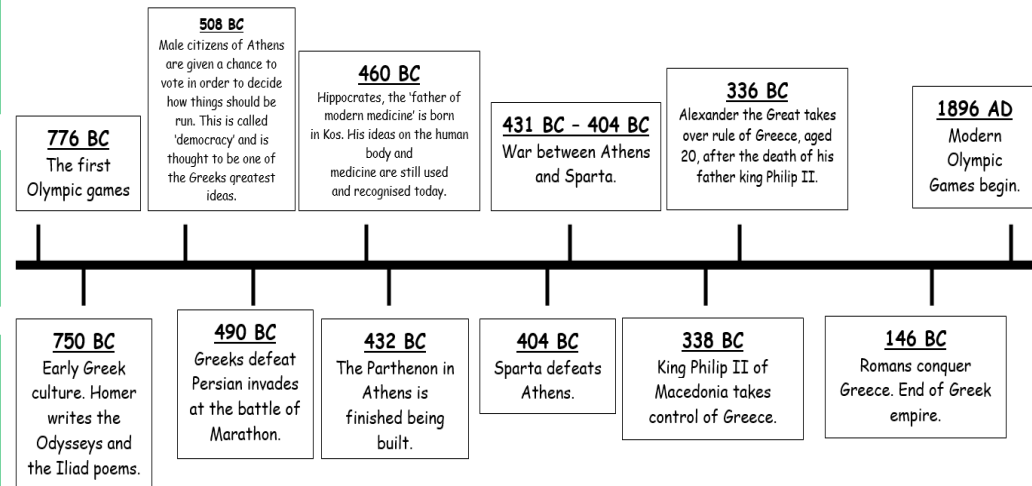


In 1180BC a famous legend tells how the Greeks conquered the city of Troy by hiding inside a giant wooden horse. The horse was left outside the city walls. Thinking it was a gift, the people of Troy wheeled it inside only for the Greek Soldiers to creep out and seize the city.

What did the Greeks do for us?



Ancient Greece Timeline



Map of Ancient Greece



Remember - you should be able to name the seven continents of the world, including which Greece is on and name some of the countries within Europe.

Vocabulary/Terminology

Culture - The beliefs, customs and arts of a society, group, place or time.

Legacy - Things or ideas that are passed down from one generation to another.

Government - Governments are necessary to exist in civilised societies. They are the systems used for being in charge of a country.

Conquest - Conquering (victory) of a country, area or situation.

Architecture - The act of designing and creating buildings, influenced by art or science.

Philosophy - The study of general and fundamental problems concerning existence, knowledge, values, reason, mind and language.

Literature - Writing (poetry, novels, history, biography and essays) in connection with ideas of universal interest.

Democracy - A government system that is elected by the majority of people about who should lead the country and deciding on setting the laws.

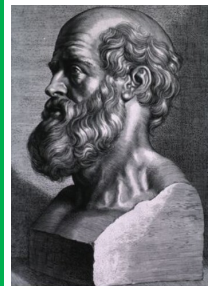
Key Figures



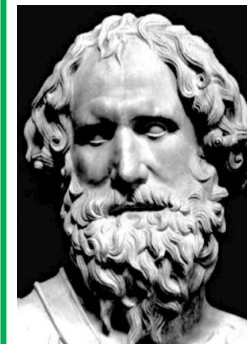
Zeus was the King of the Greek Gods and he lived upon Mount Olympus. He was the God of the sky and thunder and is often represented by symbols including the lightning bolt, the oak tree and the bull. He was married to Goddess Hera.



Alexander the Great is known for being the King of Ancient Greece and one of the best military commanders of all time. He expanded the Greek empire to its greatest size, never lost a battle and conquered many western countries.



Hippocrates was a Greek doctor who is known as the 'father of medicine.' He was the first person to understand that people got sick for scientific reasons rather than angry Gods as others in Ancient Greece had previously believed.



Archimedes was one of the most famous scientists and philosophers in Ancient Greece. He was perhaps best known for being a great mathematician. He also created war machines to protect his homeland from the Romans.