



Ancient Greece



Key Vocabulary

City States	A city that had its own government and traditions and ruled the area around it, e.g. Athens, Sparta, Corinth, Delphi & Thebes (Polis means city in Greek)
Mount Olympus	The highest mountain in Greece and the mythological home of the Greek gods. 12 Gods and Goddesses lived there.
Olympic Games	Religious and sporting festival held every four years in honour of Zeus. The first ever Olympic games were held in 776BC.
Myths and Legends	Stories passed down orally about gods and heroes. The stories were written down by the poet Homer.
Democracy	A system of government where men were able to vote on important decisions for the city state.
Thermopylae	A very famous battle took place here between the Greeks and the Persians in 480BC.

Gods and Goddesses

Zeus was the king of the Gods and ruler of the sky.

Poseidon was the god of the sea and Zeus' brother.

Hades was god of the underworld, he was also Zeus' brother.

Other famous gods included:

Hera (Zeus' wife and Goddess of marriage)

Aphrodite (Goddess of beauty and love)

Athena (Goddess of Wisdom – after whom Athens is named!)

Daily Life

In Ancient Greece most houses had a courtyard, around which the other rooms were based. The Theatre was also a popular pastime – but only the men were allowed!

Theatre was also a popular pastime – but only the men were allowed!

The Greek City-States, 500 B.C.



Ancient Greek City States

Ancient Greece was not a country. It was made up of city states. There were often battles between these city states but sometimes they would join together to defend themselves from a common enemy. Important city states of ancient Greece included Athens, Corinth and Sparta.



Ancient Greece Timeline

776 BC

The first Olympic Games are organised in honour of Zeus

600 BC

The first Greek coins are used to buy and sell goods

508 BC

Democracy is introduced in Athens, giving greater power to the people

432 BC

The Parthenon, the temple to Athena in Athens is completed

400-300 BC

The Philosophers Socrates, Plato and Aristotle work and teach in Athens

336 BC

Alexander the Great united Greece and fought

146 BC

The Roman attack on all Corinth begins