

Year 6 History: Ancient Greeks



Who were the ancient Greeks and how did they influence the modern world?

Chronology

Ancient Greece Timeline



776 BC: The first Olympic games

700 BC: Homer writes the Iliad and the Odyssey

508 BC: Democracy begins in Athens



490 BC: The Greeks defeat the Persians at the Battle of Marathon

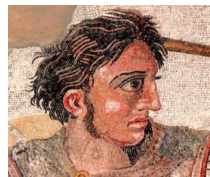
480 BC: The Greeks defeat the Persians (again) at the battle of Salamis

432 BC: The Parthenon is completed in Athens

431 BC: War between Sparta and Athens (the Spartans emerge victorious)

336 BC: Alexander the Great becomes king

332 BC: Greece conquers Egypt



Perspectives



Creation Myths

While the creation myth of Ancient Egypt reflects a peaceful and loving relationship between humans and gods, the Ancient Greeks told a much more bloodthirsty tale! For example, the sky god Kronos ate his own children - though one, Zeus, escaped and raised an army of gods and monsters to overthrow his father.



Continuity and change



How has Ancient Greece influenced our modern world?

The Greeks invented democracy - the basis of our system of government.

The Greeks introduced the Olympic games.

The Greeks invented theatre.

Significance



We still tell the myths and legends of Ancient Greece, such as the stories of Troy, the Minotaur and King Midas.

The modern marathon is based on a long journey made by a soldier following the Battle of Marathon.

We still use ideas from Ancient Greece in areas such as maths, science and art.

Ancient Greek architecture (the way that buildings are designed) are still influential today.



Significance



What was happening in Britain during the Ancient Greek civilization?

Bear in mind that Stone Henge was built in 3,000 BC - long before the start of the Greek civilization! By the time of the first Olympic games in 776 BC, Britain was moving from the Bronze Age to the Iron Age. Large hill forts were built at places such as Maiden Castle in Dorset and metalwork was used to produce jewellery, weapons and, eventually, coins. People lived in tribes, kept animals and farmed the land. Although we don't have written records to tell us what was happening in prehistoric Britain, evidence abounds of people who were civilized in many ways - fabulous engineers, creative artists, ingenious inventors and skilled builders.

Chronology



Significance



The Trojan Horse

The Iliad is a famous poem that tells the story of the war between the Greeks and the Trojans. Eventually, Greek soldiers sneaked into Troy, the home of the Trojans, inside a wooden horse and de-



Vocabulary



Vocabulary

empire prehistoric Egyptian civilization vase Olympics Battle of Marathon democracy rise of Rome mythology mythological conquer creation literature culture

Chronology



Continuity and change



Cause and consequence



Significance



Perspectives



Diversity

