



Bumblebees - History – Ancient Greece

Ancient Greece



Key facts to learn:

- Ancient Greek history is roughly split into four periods: the Mycenaean Period and Dark Ages of Greece (1600-800 B.C.), the Mycenaean Period, the Archaic period, the (800-500 B.C.) Classical Age of Greece (500 - 323 B.C.) and Hellenistic Greece (323 - 146 B.C.)
- Our understanding of Greek History is down to a wide variety of sources: writing, art, archaeology and myths.
- The Greeks believed in many gods and goddesses, celebrating them through a wide range of stories (myths).
- Alexander the Great was a king of Ancient Greece. During the time of his rule, his kingdom was known as Macedonia. He was born on July 20th, 356 BC in Pella, Macedon. He died on June 10th, 323 BC in Babylon. Perhaps best known for conquering much of Asia and Europe.
- Modern democracy has its roots in the politics of Classical Athens.

Key skills to do:

- Be able to describe the four main time periods of the Greek Empire.
- Think and question like a historian by exploring the truth behind the myths of the Trojan War and the Minotaur.
- Research the truth behind the lost city of Atlantis.
- Evaluate the life of Alexander the Great – just how ‘great’ was he?
- Learn about the lifestyle and clothing of the Ancient Greek people.
- Discover the significance of temples to the Ancient Greeks along with the features and roles of key Greek buildings.
- Understand and discuss the development of democracy from its creation in Ancient Greece to the systems used today.

Concept check questions. Test yourself:

- How did the Greek Empire change during the Archaic period?
 Why do we know so much about the Classical and Hellenistic Periods of Greek history?
 How far can we use Greek myths as a source of historical evidence?
 Do you think it is right that Alexander the Great is deemed a ‘military genius’ by some?
 How have the Ancient Greeks influenced the democratic system we have today?

Words to know and spell (Tier 2 vocabulary)

Empire	Democracy	Olympics	Olympics	Events
Europe	Greece	Soldier	Worship	Statue
Armour	Africa	Asia	Slave	God/Goddess
Battle	Temple	Athens		

Words to understand and spell (Tier 3 vocabulary)

Civilization	A well developed and organised society.
Philosophy	The study of knowledge, reality and existence (an academic discipline).
City-States	A city, with its surrounding territories, forms an independent state.
Legacy	Money or property left to someone/part of your history or something that remains from an earlier time.
Hoplite	Ancient Greek foot soldier.
Phalanx	A body of troops moving in close formation.
Trireme	An ancient vessel/type of galley used by Phoenicians, Greeks and Romans.
Athenian	Ancient/modern Athens and its people.
Spartan	A citizen of Sparta in Ancient Greece.
Boule	A council of over 500 citizens appointed to run the daily affairs of the city.
Pnyx	The official meeting place of the Athenian democratic assembly.
Ecclesia	A political assembly of citizens or church members.
Parthenon	Former temple on the Athenian Acropolis, dedicated to the Goddess Athena.
Acropolis	A citadel or fortified part of an ancient city, typically built on a hill.
Mount Olympus	The highest mountain in Greece. Olympus was known as the home of the Twelve Olympian Gods of the ancient Greek World.

SMSC Links

Spiritual- Explore the beliefs of the Ancient Greeks, including mythology and links to Roman Gods, and how these views impacted upon their daily lives.

Moral- The reasons for conquest of land and whether these are morally acceptable justifications for warfare.

Social- Understanding social changes due to changes in leadership. Learn about the Greek democratic systems and make connections with our own laws, democracy and leadership and how conflict is resolved.

Cultural- Understanding and comparing past cultures and customs with that of our own. Exploring Greek sports, the Greek’s role in the introduction of the Olympics and how the ancient Olympics compares to modern day Olympics.