

Ancient Greece Knowledge Organiser

Year 5- Term 1



The Parthenon- Acropolis- Athens



Who were the Ancient Greeks?

- Great thinkers, warriors, writers, actors, athletes, artists, architects and politicians.
- Called themselves Hellenes and their land was Hellas.
- Gave the name 'Greeks' by the Romans.
- Lived in mainland Greece and the Greek islands.
- Colonies were scattered around in Italy, Sicily, Turkey, North Africa and France.

Civilisation

- Early settlers lived a simple hunter-gatherer lifestyle.
- **2200BC- 1450BC Minoans** were the first great Greek civilisation. They lived on the island of Crete. They were known as the Minoans after their king, Minos.
- **1450BC - 1100BC Mycenaean-** lived on mainland Greece. Fought in the battle of Troy.
- **After 1100BC-** Dark Age- No-one knows what happened.
- **800BC-** Greeks began to emerge again.
- **480 BC-** Golden age.
- **323 BC- 30BC-** Hellenistic period.

Legacy and Famous Greeks

- Theatres
- Olympics
- Architecture
- Democracy
- Socrates, Plato, Aristotle, Hippocrates, Pythagoras, Alexander the Great

The Elgin Marbles



Greek Amphitheatre



Key Vocabulary

civilisation	A society of culture and way of life in a particular area
settlement	A place where people establish a community
temple	A building devoted to the worship of a god or gods
empire	A number of individual nations that are all controlled by the government or ruler of one particular country
democracy	A system of government in which people choose their rulers by voting
Government	A group of people who are responsible for running a country
citizen	A person who is legally accepted as belonging to a country
Athens	Capital city of Greece
Acropolis	A fortress of safety within an ancient Greek city.
Parthenon	The temple on the Acropolis in Athens.
amphitheatre	A large open area surrounded by rows of seats sloping upwards.
marathon	A race in which people run 26 miles, about 42km. Origins- A messenger who ran more than 20 miles from Marathon to Athens to bring news of victory after a war in 490BC.

Timeline

Archaic Period (800BC- 480BC)

776BC- First Olympic games takes place. The games would take place every 4 years in honour of the Greek god, Zeus.

757BC- First Messenian War begins.

621BC- Draco (a lawyer) introduces new laws in Athens that are punishable by death They become known as the Draconian laws.

600BC- First Greek coins are introduced.

570BC- Pythagoras is born.

508 BC - Democracy is introduced in Athens by Cleisthenes. He establishes a constitution and is often called the "Father of Athenian Democracy".

Greek Classical Period (480BC- 323BC)

490BC- The Greeks fight the Persians in the Greek/Persian Wars. Two famous battles are the Battle of Marathon in 490 BC and the Battle of Salamis in 480 BC. The Greeks win and the Persians retreat.

468BC- Sophocles begins to write plays for the theatre. Soon the theater becomes a very popular form of entertainment in Greece.

431BC - The wars between Sparta and Athens begin. They are called the Peloponnesian Wars. The wars will last 27 years with Sparta eventually conquering Athens in 404 BC.

399BC- Socrates put to death.

342BC- Plato (student of Socrates) founds the first institution (The Academy) of higher learning.

342BC- Aristotle tutors Alexander the Great.

336BC- Alexander the Great becomes king after his father is assassinated.

333BC- Alexander begins his conquests and defeats the Persians.

332BC- Alexander conquers Egypt. He establishes the new capital of Egypt at Alexandria. Over the next several years Alexander would greatly expand his empire, conquering much of Persia on the way to India.

Greek Hellenistic Period (323 BC - 146 BC)

323BC- The Hellenistic period begins when Alexander the Great dies. The Ancient Greek civilization begins its decline and the Ancient Romans start to gain power.

146 BC- Rome conquers Greece making it part of the Roman Empire.