





Knowledge Organiser

Year: 6

Term: Summer

Theme and Concept:
Community and Culture/Society

How did Ancient Greece Impact Western Civilisation?

Prior Knowledge: Children will understand that early civilisations and Ancient Egypt have a profound and fundamental culture that has impacted on the modern world through their contribution of science and art. Children will know that civilisations are invaded over time and adopt new cultural norms under new rulership. The concept of Empire will now be embedded as the children will have visited it throughout KS2, focusing on the Romans, Ancient Egyptians and Benin. Children will understand that historical events have huge impacts on the modern world and can even determine special days within which we hold ritual and/or celebration. From their exploration of Monarchy, children will understand that rulers can struggle to keep their rulership intact and so change inevitably happens, whilst some things stay the same.

1. What is civilisation?	The level of development at which people live together in
	communities.
2. What is a ritual?	A ceremony or action done in a special way.
3. What is an emperor?	A ruler of an empire.
4. What is the meaning of, "a period in time"?	A "period" is the specific length of time in the life of a person, civilisation or thing.
5. Can you define the word "age"?	An era of history with a distinct feature.
6. Name three primary sources.	Newspaper, diaries, posters, images, photographs etc.
7. How do we find out about pre-history?	Archaeology

Second Order (disciplinary) Concepts	Key Historical Knowledge	Key Historical Skill
Chronology	What is the chronology of Ancient Greece? A timeline of the Greek Empire, including key dates. Include the four periods of time: The Greek Dark Ages (Up to 1000BC), The Archaic Period (800BC — 500BC), The Classical Period (500BC-300BC) and the Hellenistic Period (300BC-30BC).	✓ I can use dates and terms accurately in describing events. ✓ I can describe the main changes in a period of history (using terms such as: social, religious, political, technological and cultural). Briefly explain the changes within these periods including rulership, invasion, culture and belief.
consequence Figl tha Spo upb left	How did Greek soldiers compare to the rest of the ancient world? Fighting war was what the Spartage did host. Greeks said	 ✓ I can describe the social, ethnic, cultural diversity of past society. ✓ I can seek out and analyse a wide
	Fighting wars was what the Spartans did best. Greeks said that in battle one Spartan was worth several other men. The Spartans believed that strict discipline and a tough upbringing was the secret to making the best soldiers. Boys left their families at seven to begin their 23-year-long training to become a soldier. Only those who went through	range of evidence in order to justify claims about the past. Explore Spartan culture and how war was embedded into their culture.





this gruelling training system were considered true Spartan citizens. It was a hard life. A boy was only allowed one tunic and had to walk everywhere barefoot, even in cold weather. They weren't given much food either, so often had to steal. Girls were expected to be physically fit too. They weren't allowed to be soldiers, but they did compete against the boys at sport. Spartan women also had more freedom than other Greek women. A wife ran the family farm and gave orders to the enslaved people (known as 'helots'). Spartan mothers told their sons before they left for battle, "Come back with your shield, or on it." Dead Spartans were carried home on their shields - only a coward would drop his shield and run away. Greek warships had oars as well as sails. The largest warships had three banks of oars and were called 'triremes. A trireme needed 170 men to row it - one man to each oar. It was steered by long oars at the stern or back of the ship. Fixed to the front of the trireme was a sharp metal ram. In battle, the triremes tried to get close to the enemy ships, and if possible, crash into them. When the trireme struck the side of an enemy ship, the ram smashed a hole in the wooden planks. Water flooded in and the damaged ship either sank or had to be beached on the nearest shore. The trireme's soldiers sometimes jumped onto a damaged ship to capture it.

Children to explore what it was like to be a child in Sparta. Explore the battle of Thermopylae, which the Spartans won in 480 BC.

Label a Greek war ship and explore the how they sunk their enemy ships.

Evidence and Interpretation

Who was Alexander the Great?

Alexander was the son of a Greek king called Philip II. Philip had started to build up an empire by uniting some of the separate city-states to the north of Greece. This empire was called Macedonia, and when Alexander grew up, he inherited control of it. It was still separate from the other Greek city-states. Although the city-states in Greece shared the same language, they had their own laws and cultures. Uniting the city-states into one empire made them stronger. Alexander took control as king of Macedonia at the age of 19, when his father Philip II died in 336 BC. Historians think that Alexander had the kind of personality to make a powerful leader. It seems that he was decisive (good at making decisions), ambitious (good at making big plans) and ruthless (willing to do whatever it takes to make his plans work). Very soon after he became king, Alexander conquered the rest of the Greek city-states too. Now he had united Macedonia with the rest of Greece. He had a powerful army and he dealt harshly with any city-states that tried to rebel against his rule. By 323BC, Alexander was head of a large empire spanning across much of the known world. During Alexander's attempts to conquer all of India, Alexander's soldiers grew weary, and the army decided to retreat to Persia for a rest. Historians think that he had plans to conquer more places but was never able to see them through because he died in mysterious circumstances aged only 33. In his 13-year reign, Alexander

- ✓ I can seek out and analyse a wide range of evidence in order to justify claims about the past.
- I can understand that no single source of evidence gives the full answer to questions about the past.
- ✓ I can refine lines of enquiry as appropriate.

Use primary sources to find out about
Alexander the Great. Who was he and
what did he do? Who wrote these
sources, and can they be trusted? Begin
to explore the concept of reliability of
sources. Children to independently
answer the question by using a range of
resources, e.g. internet, books, articles
etc. Children present their answer to the
question using evidence to back up their
historical statements.





	had created the largest empire in human history! After his	
	sudden death, the Greek Empire broke up into different	
	kingdoms, but the influence of the Greek culture that he had	
	spread still remained strong in many of the places.	
Change and	Was Alexander really so "great"?	✓ I can identify periods of rapid
continuity	Wherever Alexander went, he took Greek ideas. This is why	change in history and contrast them
	Ancient Greece has had such an impact on the modern	with times of relatively little change.
	world today. The alphabet we use is based on the Greek	✓ I can understand the concepts of
	alphabet and the justice system and democracy we use is all	continuity and change over time.
	based on the culture of the Ancient Greeks. We can connect	✓ I can use appropriate historical
	this to the study of Romans in year 3, who loved the Greeks	vocabulary to communicate change
	that much, they adopted their gods, democracy and	and continuity.
	philosophy and ethics, which meant when the Roman empire	Did Alexander change Greek culture and
	invaded, more Greek culture was spread. Aristotle was	society? Explore the vast network of
	Alexander's teacher and so wherever Alexander went, the	trade he created. Look at maps and the
	teachings of Aristotle were spread amongst the educated class. This meant that Greek culture was mixing with the	spread of his Empire. Begin to evaluate
	educated class of other cultures. Alexander was not a	the impact of invasion compared to the
	nationalist but was incredibly clever at using his empire to	impact of cultural diversity. What
	work together. He did this by honouring the different kings	, ,
	he defeated and delegating rulership across his lands. This	changed in different societies and what
	meant he could share his Greek culture freely and weave it	stayed the same? Did some countries
	into the fabric of the culture he had just conquered. This	adopt a fundamental Greek culture?
	resulted in a Greek-speaking network of trade across the	(This links back to Year 3 with the
	empire that lasted for nearly three centuries. This was also	invasion of Rome in Britain).
	the basis with which the Roman empire based their strategy	
Historical	Who were the Greek Gods?	✓ I can describe the social, ethnic,
significance	The Greeks believed that gods and goddesses watched over	cultural or religious diversity of past
	them. These gods were a bit like humans, but they lived	society.
	forever and were much more powerful. They felt human	✓ I can describe the characteristic
	emotions, like love, anger and jealousy, and they did not	features of the past, including ideas,
	always behave themselves. The Greeks thought the gods	beliefs, attitudes and experiences of
	lived high above Mount Olympus, in a palace in the clouds.	men, women and children.
	From here, they kept an eye on life below. From time to time, they would interfere in what was going on. They could	Explore the Greek Gods and Goddesses
	send storms if they were angry and decide who was	and some aspects of philosophical
	victorious in wars. Sometimes they even played tricks on	thought through the ages. The temples
	humans too. The Greeks built temples to their gods and	were not unified, therefore there was not
	goddesses. Some temples were small, while others were very	a standardised set of rituals or practices.
	grand and beautiful with amazing decorations. Every city in	It was inherently community based with
	Greece had a 'patron' God or Goddess. People believed	a focus on a deity from the Olympian
	patron gods protected them from harm. When people	Pantheon. Explore the significance of the
	needed help from the gods, they went to the temple to pray.	Greek myths and the features of Ancient
	They might go if they were feeling sick, going on a journey	
	or worried about the harvest on the farm. To please the	Greek temples and their impact on
	gods, people brought gifts of money, flowers, food and	architecture within western civilisation.
	drink. They offered these gifts as sacrifices. Animals, like	
	cattle, were sometimes killed as sacrifices. Then people	
C::1 :: 1	feasted on the roasted meat.	
	\A/	/ can usa ammammiata -i-ti
Similarity and difference	Why were the Olympics created and what was its legacy?	 ✓ I can use appropriate historical vocabulary to communicate legacy.





The Greeks loved sport and the Olympic Games were the biggest sporting event in the ancient calendar. The Olympic Games began over 2,700 years ago in Olympia, in southwest Greece. Every four years, around 50,000 people came from all over the Greek world to watch and take part. The ancient games were also a religious festival, held in honour of Zeus, the king of the gods. There were no gold, silver and bronze medals. Winners were given a wreath of leaves and a hero's welcome back home. Athletes competed for the glory of their city and winners were seen as being touched bu the gods. Before the aames began, messengers were sent out to announce a 'sacred truce' or a peace. This meant that any wars should be called off so that people could travel safely to Olympia. The entire games were dedicated to Zeus. Visitors flocked to see the Temple of Zeus. Inside stood a huge gold and ivory statue of the king of the gods himself. The main event at the Olympics was not a sporting event, but a sacrifice. On the third day of the games, 100 oxen were sacrificed and burnt on the Altar of Zeus. This altar was not made from stone. Instead, it was made from the leftover ash of all the sacrificed oxen. By around 200AD, the mound of ash stood six meters high.

- ✓ I can compare some of the times studied with those of the other areas of interest around the world.
- ✓ I can compare the main changes in a period of history with Modernday.

Explore the beginnings of the Olympics and why they were created. Explore how the Olympics were created to honour Zeus and how they were a religious event. Compare with the modern-day Olympics, focusing on the similarities and differences.

Key Vocabulary

architecture: The art and science of designing and creating buildings.

Athens: The capital city of Greece. It was the heart of Ancient Greece.

culture: The beliefs, customs and arts of a particular society, group, place or time.

democracy: A type of government where decisions are made by the majority.

government: The system used to keep charge over a country.

Hellenistic Period: A period that lasted from 323BC, when Alexander the Great ruled, to the invasion of Rome in 146BC.

legacy: Things or ideas passed down from one generation to the another.

literature: Written works, especially those considered of superior or lasting artistic merit.

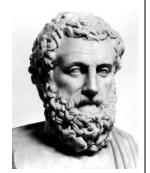
Olympic Games: A series of Athletic challenges that take lace every four years.



Significant People

Alexander the Great:

Alexander the Great was king of Macedon. He led his army to victory, defeating Persian territories, Asia Minor, Syria and Egypt without suffering a single defeat. He created an Empire that was linked with a vast network of trade and commerce. The young king was educated by the philosopher, Aristotle. Alexander the Great died at the age of 32 in June 323BC.



Aristotle:

Aristotle was a Greek philosopher in Ancient Greece that lived during the classical period. He is known as the Father of Logic, and has contributed to mathematics, physics, ethics and biology, influencing the very basis of though within western civilisation.





Parthenon: A former temple on the Athenian Acropolis, Greece, dedicated to the goddess Athena. philosophy: The study of the basic ideas about knowledge, morals, reasoning and the value of things.		
Sparta : A power-city state and enemy to Athens.	Resources	
titans: The first Greek Gods that were over-thrown by their children, the Olympians. tyrant: The ruler of a Greek Citystate.	(natgeokids.com)	





Timeline

1600BC - 1100BC

Beginning of Mycenaean Period (Decline of Bronze Age in Ancient Egypt).

1250 BC

Trojan War

776BC

The first Olympic Games takes place.

750BC

The scholar Homer wites 'Odyssey' and 'The Iliad.

490BC

Persian invaders defeated by the Greeks in the battle of Marathon.

508BC

The first democracy begins in Athens.

600BC

Greek coin currency introduced.

650BC

The rise of the Greek tyrants.

480BC

Persian invaders defeated by the Greeks again, in the battle of Salamis.

472BC - 410BC

Many famous Greek plays are written and performed.

450BC

Athens controls its empire.

431BC

Athens Vs Sparta

146BC

Invasion of the Romans.

336BC

Alexadner the Great came to power.

430BC

Bubonic Plaque in Athens.