

ANCIENT GREECE– WOODPECKER CLASS

Key Vocabulary

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| ancient | Something from a long time ago |
| empire | A group of countries or states that are ruled by one ruler or country. |
| democracy | A system where the citizens of a country or state are involved in the way it is run. |
| myth | A story from ancient times about something that happened long ago that some people believed to be true. |
| City State | Small areas that ancient Greece was divided into, each with their own governments, laws and army. |

Religion & Beliefs

The ancient Greeks believed in many different gods and goddesses. Each god/goddess represented a certain aspect of humanity and each was responsible for certain parts of life too.

- Festivals were held to celebrate the gods and goddesses.
- It is believed that the 12 most powerful gods lived on Mount Olympus.
- Zeus was the most powerful of all the gods. He was god of the sky and the king of Mount Olympus.



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.



Democracy

Ancient Athens is where democracy began in around 508 BC. Listening to the opinions of other people and debating issues was an important part of this system. After debating issues, the ancient Athenians would vote. At that time, the only people allowed to take part in democracy were adult males who were citizens of Athens. The legacy of democracy still exists today in many parts of the world.

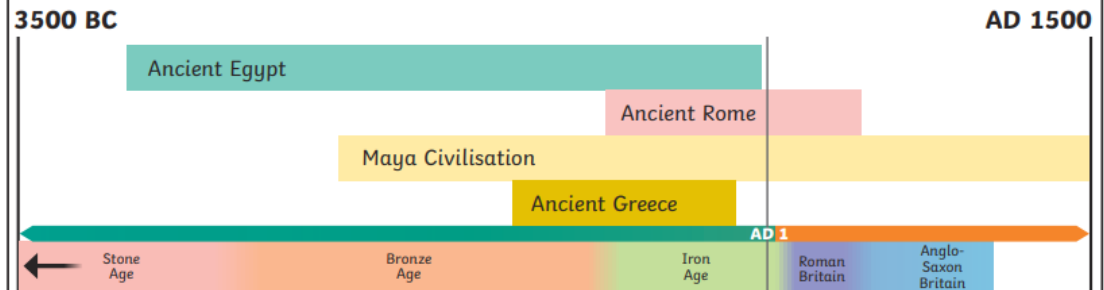
Myths

The Trojan War is a famous ancient Greek myth.

- Many people believe that it is a myth but that there is some historical truth behind it.
- The Trojan War was between the Greek and the Trojan Armies.
- In the story, the Greeks pretended to surrender, leaving a gift of a giant horse for the Trojans. The gift was brought inside the city walls. During the night, Greek soldiers hiding inside the horse let the Greek army inside Troy's walls and the city was destroyed.



Timeline



Ancient Greece links to our previous topics of Ancient Maya and Ancient Egypt as they all overlap chronologically. Ancient Greece is the shortest of the 3 time periods but there is a lot of evidence through artefacts that remain. Archaeologists can use the primary sources of evidence to help understand what life was like living in Ancient Greece.