



Year 5 History/Geography Knowledge Organiser

Topic: Ancient Greece – a study of Greek life

Key questions:

- When and where was ancient Greece?
- What impacted on the lives of ancient Greece?
- How do the Ancient Greeks influence the modern world?
- What's a city state and how did they impact the Greek life?

Key knowledge:



When and where was ancient Greece?

Ancient Greek civilization flourished **from the period following Mycenaean civilization, which ended about 1200 BCE, to the death of Alexander the Great, in 323 BCE.**

Ancient Greeks managed to establish cities and towns that became busy with activities that involved art, music and literature. The famous places in ancient Greece include **Sparta**, a small town, **Olympia**, the birthplace of the **OLYMPIC GAMES**, and **Athens**, the centre of democracy and art in the then civilised world.



Key knowledge:

In the ancient **Greek** world, **religion** was personal, direct, and present in all areas of life. With formal rituals which included animal sacrifices and libations, myths to explain the origins of mankind and give the gods a human face, temples which dominated the urban landscape, **city** festivals and national sporting and artistic competitions, religion was never far from the mind of an ancient Greek.

The most important gods, though, were the Olympian gods led by **Zeus**.

What was the culture like?

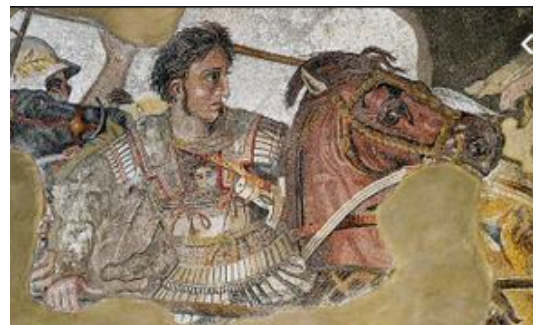
The Greeks pretty much invented the **theatre**. The Greeks also celebrated the arts with big **festivals**. There was always music, dancing and feasting in honour of their gods. The Greeks' trademark red and black **pottery** was very fashionable, and it was bought and sold all over the Mediterranean and even parts of Asia. They were great builders too. The Greeks built grand **temples** to their gods and superb sculptures of brave heroes.

Key knowledge:

Alexander the Great

Alexander the Great was the king of Macedonia or Ancient Greece. He is considered one of the greatest military commanders in history. Like most children in Athens, Alexander was tutored as a child and learned mathematics, reading, writing, and how to play the lyre. When Alexander turned thirteen, his father Philip II wanted the best teacher possible for him. He hired the great philosopher Aristotle.

After securing the throne and getting all of Greece under his control, Alexander turned east to conquer more of the civilised world. He moved swiftly using his military genius to win battle after battle conquering many peoples and rapidly expanding the Greek empire.



Key vocabulary

Mediterranean sea: is the body of water that surrounds Greece

Myth: is a traditional, ancient story that is fictional.

Legend: A traditional story or group of stories told about a particular person or place is known as a legend.



Temple: is a building that people use for worshipping gods or for other religious purposes

Archaeology: the study of people and artefacts from ancient times.

Democracy: a form of government ruled by the people

Pottery: is the art of making objects with clay

Output:

- To explain where Ancient Greece history fits within world history.
- To label a map with the key physical features, ancient regions, bodies of water and important cities.
- To create an information leaflet about Greek religion.
- To create a fact file about Alexander the Great