

Year 3 Ancient Greece

Summer 1

Vocabulary	
agora	A place where people meet to make decisions and vote.
legacy	something that exists as a direct result of a period of history and that continues to exist after the period is over.
significant	Important
BC	“Before Christ” The number of years before Jesus was born.
classical period	Period of great architecture, trade, theatre, literature and philosophy.
citizen	a person who lives in and has the rights given by a town or city.
ancient	Over 1,000 years old
trade	the act of exchanging or buying and selling goods
artefacts	any object from the past made by human beings

Government, Democracy and Slavery
 Men were classed as the only citizens and they could vote. Women and slaves were not allowed. A jury of 500 citizens acted as jury and decided if anyone was guilty of law-breaking (punishments included death). They could also vote on who they disliked and could get others banished from their city. This was called Ostracism.

Time Periods of Ancient Greece				
Minoan & Mycenaean Ages 2200BC - 1100BC	Dark Ages 1100BC - 800 BC	Archaic Period 800BC - 480BC	Classical Period 480BC - 323BC	Hellenistic Period 323BC - 146BC

Women in Ancient Greece

Most women were in charge of the household and were discouraged from going out. Their slaves [often women] would go out shopping and fetching water. Poorer women would have to go out to do their own shopping etc. Women could not vote and were less important than their husbands.



A vase showing women, probably slaves, at the well fetching water.



Types of Government

Democracy: ruled by the citizens who can vote.

Monarchy: ruled by a kings or a queen.

Oligarchy: ruled by a small group of powerful people.

Tyranny: ruled by one person, usually by force and fear.

Athens and Sparta

Athens was the largest city-state in Ancient Greece. For a time it was also the most powerful. Athens was near to the sea and became rich from its successful trading with other places. Slaves performed manual jobs like building. Reading and writing was seen as being very important, and free-men (called ‘citizens’) enjoyed art, philosophy, plays and festivals. The city was built around a hill called the Acropolis, which was the site of many temples including the ‘Parthenon’, a famous temple of the goddess Athena which can still be seen today.

Sparta was an inland city protected by mountains, making it difficult to invade. However, the mountains alone were not enough to protect Sparta from potential invasion. Sparta built an incredibly fierce army. Strength, fitness and obedience were highly valued in Spartan society and everybody was trained in these things. Most people lived in basic farming houses or in training barracks. There is not a lot of evidence of buildings left from Sparta today, nor are there many written records, because reading and writing were not valued in the same way as learning to fight.

What is the legacy of Ancient Greece?					
Democracy	Alphabet and writing	Olympics	Science and medicine	Theatre	Maths
The Greeks were the first to have a democracy, allowing people to vote to say how their city was run.	Our alphabet has developed from Greek. Many words in our language come from Ancient Greece.	The first ever Olympic Games were held in Ancient Greece.	The Greeks learned about how the human body works, developed medicines and discovered the way the sun and planets move.	The Greeks were famous for writing and putting on plays.	The Greeks invented ways of calculating angles in shapes.