Life In Ancient Greece
ANCIENT GREECE - AN INTRODUCTION

**Greece** is a country located in southern Europe between Albania and Turkey. It borders the Aegean Sea, Ionian Sea and the Mediterranean Sea. Greece not only has its mainland but over 2,000 small islands dotted around its coasts.

Thousands of years ago **ancient Greece** was a great civilisation that existed **Before Christ** (B.C.). It was much larger than the mainland and islands of today as it spread west across what is now Italy and south as far as Egypt.

The weather in ancient Greece was mild, wet winters and hot, dry summers.

Ancient Greek people all shared the same language and religion but the did not live in a united country like today. Each flat area was made up of an independent **city-state** or **polis** which had its own laws and customs. It was the mountains around each city-state that provided a natural border and defences against the neighbours! Strong city-states became more powerful by conquest rather than by kind agreement and the two most largest city-states were **Athens** and **Sparta**.

Ancient Greek towns had high walls surrounding them with a temple called an **acropolis** built high up inside the walls. There was an open-air theatre called an **amphitheatre** and an **agora** in each town. The agora was a large square surrounded by the public buildings, law courts and shops and was used for markets, business, meeting friends and having a good gossip!

The word **ancient** means very old. Some buildings around you may have been built 200 or more years ago, but ancient Greek buildings are now over 2,400 years old. No wonder they are in ruins! The civilisation of ancient Greece lasted from about 2,000 B.C. to 200 B.C. with its most important period being from 500 B.C. to 300 B.C. During this time they produced many important ideas about art, architecture, medicine, sport, science and mathematics.

**Using travel brochures collected from a local travel agent find pictures that tell us something about the Greek climate.**

**Make a weather collage for Greece using the pictures you find and your own drawings.**
**ANCIENT GREECE - ATHENS**

**Athens** was the *intellectual city-state* of ancient Greece. Education and the arts were very important to the people of Athens. Excellence was their goal in everything they did. It is because they tried so hard in everything they did that they accomplished so much and proved to be a society way ahead of their time!

The people of Athens believed that individuals should be free as long as they followed the law. This allowed them to study or develop themselves in any way that they wished and led to a wealth of great Greek thinkers and philosophers.

*Look up the word* philosophy *in a dictionary and write down the meaning below.*

_____________________________________
_____________________________________
_____________________________________

*Now write down the meaning of* philosopher.

_____________________________________
_____________________________________
_____________________________________

Athens was named after **Athena**, the Greek goddess of wisdom. In 508 B.C. it became one of the first societies in ancient times to establish **democracy**. The word democracy came from the Greek words, **demos**, meaning people, and **kratein**, meaning to rule.

*Look up the word* democracy *in a dictionary and write down the meaning below.*

_____________________________________
_____________________________________
_____________________________________

This democratic form of government was carried out at a meeting place which the Greeks called the **Assembly**. The people of Athens met there every month and discussed issues. After these meetings the government officials could make decisions and laws.

The **Acropolis** was the religious centre and fortress for the Athenian people. Its walls were built overlooking the city and inside the walls the people of Athens built temples and buildings. The **Parthenon** is the most famous building in the Acropolis today.

The people of ancient Athens were master builders, architects and great lovers of art. Their talents in the arts can be seen through many different items which have survived for thousands of years. These include items such as vases, sculptures and jewellery.

Athenian men were required to serve two years in the military, one in the garrison and one in a border fort.

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The Parthenon
ANCIENT GREECE - SPARTA

It is hard to say anything nice at all about the Spartans! Historians have said that they were a brutal lot who were lacking in culture and kindness! All this aside Sparta was the greatest military power of ancient Greece with its own laws, money and kings.

Life in Sparta was very much harder than life in the cultural city-state of Athens. The people of Sparta were led by its king and had to follow very strict military-like rules. Athens was the bitter enemy and rival of Sparta and the two states represented opposite concepts of ancient Greek living. Despite their hardships the Spartans believed they lived in the best of all Greek states and were very proud of it. Many of their Greek neighbours agreed with them; or were they too frightened to disagree? The rivalry between Sparta and Athens finally led to a disastrous war for Athens.

Spartans were so devoted to their military lives they had to rely on a huge population of agricultural slaves called helots to farm and provide food for them in the surrounding farm land. Of course this land was owned by Spartans and not the slaves!

The life of the helots was a miserable one. Farm labour was long and hard and they barely had anything to eat for themselves.

Imagine the uproar if this happened today...

When children were born the state decided if the child was strong enough to be a future soldier and if they weren’t they were left in the hills to die from cold. At the age of seven every boy was sent to military and athletic school. These schools taught toughness, discipline and survival skills. At twenty, after thirteen years of training, the boy became a soldier where he worked until he died or reached the age of sixty.

Sparta did not produce any art or philosophy, or leave us any written work, but its people were admired for being brave and strong.
### COMPARING ATHENS AND SPARTA

In the table below are statements about life in ancient Greece. Answer yes or no for each statement in relation to Athens and Sparta.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statement</th>
<th>Athens</th>
<th>Sparta</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. In this city-state the people liked art.</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. The people here were known as great fighters.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>3. The people here were great thinkers and writers.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. These people had slaves called helots to farm for them.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Boys were sent to military school for 13 years.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. These men served in the army for many years.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. These men served in the army for two years.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Individuals were free to do what they wanted.</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. These people lived in a democracy.</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>10. These people had strict rules they had to follow.</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>11. These people were master builders and architects.</td>
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<tr>
<td>12. These people believed in a good all-round education.</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>13. These people had excellence as their goal.</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>14. This state was named after the Greek goddess of wisdom.</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15. These people were brutal and rough.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
WARFARE IN ANCIENT GREECE

The ancient Greeks had different kinds of armies throughout their history and the early armies were disorganised and badly planned. Later, a better kind of army developed where weaponry, tactics and fighting formations were improved. These new armies had javelin throwers, men on horseback and foot soldiers called hoplites.

Most of the time the armies were fighting their neighbouring city-state’s army but they did have to fight people from other lands too.

There were only three times when different Greek city-states fought as a united army to defeat a larger power. This happened during the Persian Wars of 490 B.C. and 333 B.C. and again in 331 B.C. under the leadership of Alexander the Great.

The hoplite was a heavily armed soldier. His two weapons were a double-bladed sword and an eight foot pike for thrusting. He carried a round shield and wore a breastplate of metal and leather, a helmet and metal shin protectors called greaves. These men were much faster and stronger than those before them.

When in battle soldiers stood shoulder to shoulder in long lines about eight rows of men deep. The men in the front line held their shield strapped to their left arm and their sword in their right hand. This protected the man on their left while they themselves were being protected by the man on their right. Slowly the stronger army moved forward together while fighting and defeating their opponent.

Colour in the picture of the hoplites. What colours do you think their weapons, armour and robes were considering what they were made from? Try to be as realistic as possible.
Early ancient Greek soldiers had to provide their own equipment including their weapons. The poorer you were the worse weapons you had which meant you were destined to be a foot soldier.

As time went by the lower and middle classes began to get richer so soldiers could afford better armour and weapons. By 500 B.C. the soldiers were heavily armed and called hoplites.

There were no strict uniforms as such but as years went by different city-states adopted different items which made them identifiable. The Spartan hoplites wore scarlet red and the hoplites from Athens had a large letter A on their shields.

A hoplite from Sparta had to serve in the army until he was sixty but in Athens hoplites served for only two years. After the two years were up the men were put on a reserve list and only called up if there was a war.

Imagine you were a hoplite in this picture. Write a short story on your day in battle.
The ancient Greek navy was one of the most powerful fleets of the time. The naval boats were called **triremes** and would have been no match for today’s naval fleet although at the time they were the best that naval technology had to offer.

The trireme was built for speed and mobility and had one or two sails with a carved bow. They were 120 feet long and were powered by 170 rowers arranged in 3 rows. They were very low to the water and very narrow. The bottom row of rowers were just 45 cm above the water! Not great on the open ocean! Rough seas would soon sink a low trireme but they were great for short battles close to shore.

The crew of a trireme usually consisted of 203 men. A modern destroyer might have between 300 and 500 men. Most of the crew were one of the 170 rowers and they were also the soldiers. Besides the 170 rowers a trireme's crew was made up of 14 spearmen, 4 archers and 25 officers.

The captain of a trireme was usually a political man who knew nothing about warfare so the command of the ship usually fell to the **kybernetes**, or helmsmen. Next came the **proreus**, the lookout, who was in charge of the foredeck. The lowest ranked officer was the **pentecontarchos** who was in charge of wages and administration. Another important man was the **carpenter**, who was often needed for repairs on these wooden ships!

**Using the text on this page label this drawing of a trireme.**
**THE BATTLE OF MARATHON - Part 1**

*Athens* was an exciting, cultural city-state but it only had a very small army. Kings from far away dreamed about winning over Athens and adding it to their realm.

The main **enemy** of Athens was the far away country of **Persia** and in 490 B.C. Persia sent out its army to cross the **Aegean Sea** and capture Athens. The Persian army was 15,000 men strong! This terrified the people of Athens with their small army so they asked some other city-states for help in fighting the Persians. One small army agreed to help them but they really wanted the **Spartans** to help because they were the best fighters.

Unfortunately the Spartans could not get there in time. They were in the middle of a festival of worship to **Pan**, one of their sacred gods, and they were not allowed to fight during the whole month. Instead they promised to pray to Pan and ask him to help the people of Athens. In reply Pan said he would send a disease to afflict the Persian army!

*Finish this drawing of a Persian soldier.*
Athens had no choice but to rally their troops and fight the Persians. They got together 10,000 men and a general called Miltiades. Miltiades worked on a cunning war plan to confuse the Persians the night before the attack. Although the Athenians were outnumbered they fought well by confusing the Persians and breaking their ranks.

The Persians began to panic and ran back to their ships in defeat. The state of panic they got themselves into was said to be the disease that Pan had promised to send! On the Battlefield of Marathon Athens only lost 192 men compared to the 6,400 men lost by the Persians!

One Athenian soldier called Pheidippides was a good runner and ran all the way to Athens to tell the people of the victory. The distance from the Battlefield of Marathon to Athens was just over 26 miles. Sadly the run was too much for him after all the fighting and when he reached the city steps he fell to the ground. He managed to say the word “Nike!”, meaning victory, and then died. This run to the city has led to the long distance running event called the marathon.

Imagine you are a Persian soldier. Write down what happened to you in battle.

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The Greeks put most of their troops on the side and fewer in the middle. They weakened the Persians from the side and then attacked from behind!
The Acropolis in Athens, otherwise known as the Sacred Rock of Athens, was and is the most important site in the city. During ancient Greece some of the architectural masterpieces of the period were built there.

The term acropolis means upper city and many of the city-states of ancient Greece were built around an acropolis. It was the acropolis where people went for safety in times of war. Because it was so safe most of the sacred buildings, statues and temples were built there. It was also seen as the religious centre of the city-state.

One of the most important buildings on the Acropolis in Athens was the Parthenon or the Temple of Athena. It was built a long time ago between 447 B.C. and 438 B.C. and its remains are still there today. The columns of the Parthenon supported huge marble slabs which contained relief pictures. On the eastern side of the building was a picture of the battle between the gods and the giants. On the west was a picture of the Greeks battling the Amazons. On the north there was a picture of the fall of Troy and on the south was a picture of battles between men and the centaurs.

These can be seen at the British Museum in London today. They are now called the Elgin Marbles after the man who brought them to England.

This is a map of the Acropolis in Athens from above. Steep hills surround it.

Look at photos of the ruins and write down what it looks like today and what you imagine it looked like in ancient Greece.
Mount Olympus is part of the tallest mountain range in Greece and is about 50 miles southwest of the city of Thessaloniki in northern Greece. Can you find it on a map?

Mount Olympus was believed to have been the heavenly home of the Greek gods by the ancient Greeks and it was here that Zeus had his throne. Zeus was the big chief of all the gods. Do you remember that Athens was named after Athena, the god of wisdom? Well Athena was one of Zeus’s many children. The ancient Greeks believed that the gods would help them out in life.

The other gods and goddesses that the ancient Greeks believed lived on Mount Olympus were Hera, the wife of Zeus; Poseidon and Hades, the brothers of Zeus; his sisters Demeter and Hestia; and his children, Apollo, Artemis, Ares, Aphrodite, Athena, Hermes and Hephaestus.

These gods and goddesses did not actually live upon Olympus, but were ancient myths and legends created by the people. The ancient Greeks believed that the sacred mountain had special powers so it seemed like the perfect place for these gods to live. A myth or legend is an invented story about an imaginary person or object that people believe in.
The ancient Greeks had to face many forces of nature in their lives. In the effort to understand these forces they invented stories to account for the things that went on in their lives. These tales, known as myths, were spread around by travellers. They contained the powerful gods from Mount Olympus, sea gods, woodland gods, sky gods, underwater gods, half-gods and human heroes.

Suddenly, you are transported back in time and find yourself in ancient Greece! A lightning bolt strikes and you cover your eyes with your hands. When you open your eyes the room is full of strange people... gods even! But who are they? Here is a brief description of each to help you to get by.

**Match the sentences to the correct pictures of the different Greek gods.**

**ZEUS** beat his father to be chief of the gods and shared the power with his brothers. *His symbols are the eagle thunder-bolts & the oak.*

**HERA** is the beautiful and powerful wife of Zeus. *She is the goddess of marriage and birth. Her symbol is the peacock.*

**ATHENA**, favourite daughter of Zeus, is the goddess of wisdom, war and the arts. *Her symbols are the owl, spear, shield & olive tree.*

**POSEIDON**, brother of Zeus, is the god of the sea. *He pounds and shakes the earth. His symbols are the horse, bull and trident.*
Match the sentences to the correct pictures of the different Greek gods.

HEPHAESTUS, son of Zeus, is the god of fire and craftsmen. He once created a beautiful woman. His symbol is the axe.

DEMETER, sister of Zeus, is the goddess of corn and the harvest. Her symbols are the sceptre, torch and corn.

ARTEMIS, daughter of Zeus, is the goddess of wildlife, archery and hunting. Her symbols are the bow and deer.

APHRODITE, daughter of Zeus, is the goddess of love and beauty. Her symbols are the dove, sceptre and the shrub called myrtle.

APOLLO, son of Zeus, is the god of the sun, logic and reason. He was a fine musician. His symbols are the bow and lyre.

ARES, son of Zeus, is the god of war. He represents the violent aspects of human nature. His symbol is the spear.
A GOD’S TALE - ATHENA

Your job is to illustrate this myth about Athena in the storyboard below.

1. Athena was born from the head of Zeus!
2. She sprang out fully grown and armed for battle.
3. Athena and her uncle, Poseidon stood on the Acropolis in Athens.
4. The people of Athens stood around them to judge the contest about to start.
5. They both wanted leadership of Athens and had to produce the best gift.
6. Poseidon struck a rock and made a salt water spring!
7. Athena stood up high on a rock and held out her right arm.
8. Suddenly olive tree appeared in the ground before her.
9. The olive tree was judged to be the winner and Athena the goddess of Athens!
A GOD’S TALE - POSEIDON

Your job is to illustrate this myth about Poseidon in the storyboard below.

1. Poseidon, god of the seas, had long hair, a beard and carried a trident!
2. Poseidon had a son called Polyphemus whom he loved very much.
3. One day the hero fighter Odysseus blinded the boy Polyphemus.
4. Poseidon got in a rage and vowed undying hatred towards Odysseus.
5. Years later Odysseus was sailing back from the island Ogygia in a boat.
6. Poseidon saw him and created a huge raging storm. The boat broke up.
7. Odysseus washed up on the closest shore.
8. The people there gave him another boat and he set off again.
9. On his return to land Poseidon turned the boat to stone and sank it!
You have already learnt about some of the Olympian Greek gods but there are many others including sea gods, woodland gods, sky gods, underwater gods, half-gods and human heroes. They are all contained in myths invented by the Greek people to help them to try and understand their everyday lives. These myths are stories of courageous or romantic adventures, betrayals, battles and wanderings. There are so many of these gods and myths that a lot of time is needed to find out and read about them all! So...

Your job as a research assistant is to answer the questions below. Choose a god from the list and look it up on the Internet or in the library. Present your findings to the group after you have finished. Some good pictures of the gods can be found here: http://www.pantheon.org/areas/gallery/mythology/europe/greek/

The name of the god I am researching is _____________________________.

They are the god of _____________________________.

Their relatives are _____________________________.

The god looks like _____________________________.

A myth related to this god is _____________________________.

Now do a drawing of the god on the back of this sheet.
Each Greek god had one or more **symbols** associated to it. These symbols help us to **identify** the gods when looking at pictures. Often female gods look pretty much the same in face and body and it is the symbol in the picture that gives us a clue as to who they are. **Complete the Greek god symbol chart below.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>GOD OF</th>
<th>SYMBOL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Zeus</td>
<td>God of the gods!</td>
<td>Gull, lightning bolt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hera</td>
<td></td>
<td>Peacock</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hestia</td>
<td>Goddess of the hearth</td>
<td>Fire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Athena</td>
<td></td>
<td>Owl, spear, shield and olive tree</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poseidon</td>
<td>God of the sea</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hephaestus</td>
<td></td>
<td>Axe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hermes</td>
<td>The messenger god</td>
<td>Winged hat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Demeter</td>
<td></td>
<td>Torch and corn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Artemis</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aphrodite</td>
<td>Goddess of love and beauty</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apollo</td>
<td>God of the sun</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ares</td>
<td></td>
<td>Spear</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dionysus</td>
<td>God of wine</td>
<td>Ivy, snake and grapes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hades</td>
<td>God of the Underworld</td>
<td>Sceptre and cornucopia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iris</td>
<td>Goddess of the rainbow</td>
<td>Winged boots</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eros</td>
<td>God of love</td>
<td>Bow and cupid</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ANCIENT GREEK SYMBOLS

For each ancient Greek god either draw a picture of their symbol or a picture of them.

Poseidon - god of the sea.  
Eros - god of love.  
Ares - god of war.

Dionysus - god of wine.  
Apollo - god of the sun.  
Athena - god of the wisdom.

Zeus - chief of the gods.  
Artemis - god of wildlife, archery and hunting.  
Hermes - the messenger god.
ANCIENT GREEK THEATRE

In ancient Greece *plays* were either *tragedies* or *comedies* and were always performed in *outdoor theatres*. The plays were performed as part of *religious festivals* in honour of the god of wine, *Dionysus*, twice a year. Attendance at the performances was seen as an act of *worship* but you had to pay to get in! The plays were funded by the rich people of the city-state and were in competition with each other. They were then voted first, second, or third. Coming third meant you were in last place!

All the actors used *masks* and the two masks on this page are the symbols for the theatre today. One mask is for *comedy* and the other *tragedy*. Both were used in ancient Greek theatres. Plays were performed by a *chorus* and *three actors*. The actors would go back stage after playing one character, change masks and costumes, and reappear as another character if they needed to. No women were allowed to act, men had to act as women!

*Comedies* were stories about ordinary people and had happy endings. *Tragedies*, derived from the Greek words *tragos* (goat) and *ode* (song), told an old story or myth that, just like stories in the Bible, were meant to show you the right and wrong paths in life.

**Who wrote the Greek plays? Pick an author below and find out about them. Write a short report detailing what you found out.**

- Sophocles [http://www.crystalinks.com/sophocles.html](http://www.crystalinks.com/sophocles.html)

**My author is**

![Comedy and tragedy masks]
The **Theatre of Dionysus**, a great outdoor arena, was built at the foot of the Acropolis in Athens. It could seat **17,000** people at a time! During really popular festival days plays drew as many as 30,000 spectators. Many of the audience must have stood!

Join each label to the part of the diagram it belongs to.

**Orchestra** - circular “dancing space” 60ft wide, paved.

**Altar** - in the centre of the orchestra.

**Theatron** - semi-circular “viewing space” for audience.

**Skene** - decorated “tent” behind the orchestra.

**Parodos** - “passageways” for actors and audience to come and go.

Answer these questions.

1. How many people could the Theatre of Dionysus seat? ___________________________

2. Where is it located? __________________________________________________________

3. What do think the skene might have been used for? ________________________________

4. What do you think the seating was made from? _________________________________

5. Is the orchestra or the parodos used as the stage? _______________________________
ART ACTIVITY - MAKE A GREEK MASK

Do you remember the comedy and tragedy masks that are the symbol of the theatre today? **Today you are going to make a mask like that or like the face of a Greek god.** You decide who you want to be! Quickly though, time is running out!

**You will need these materials:**
- A large paper plate
- Pencils, crayons and markers
- Scissors and glue
- A ruler
- A black marker pen
- A hole punch
- Black or brown wool or ribbon
- A long piece of string

1. Hold the paper plate up to your face and roughly mark where your eyes are with a pencil. Remove the plate from your face and cut holes where your pencil marks are.
2. Using half of the hole punch make a hole on both sides of the plate near the eyes.
3. Draw in the mouth. Make it quite large. Curve it up for happy and down for sad.
4. Cut out the mouth.
5. Draw in a nose and draw black lines around each eye and mouth hole.
6. Decorate the rest of the mask as you wish. Maybe you need hair, eyebrows, a beard or ears!
7. Cut the piece of string in half. Tie one in each hole at the sides of the mask.
8. To wear the mask do the string up at the back of your head!

**OPTIONAL IDEAS:**
- Use the wool or ribbons to cut up and make hair. Glue it onto the mask.
- If you want a real beard use the wool and thread it through holes punched around the bottom of the plate. Remember to just use one side of the hole punch.
- Make the mask less circular by using your scissors to shape the outside edge.
All the things that we know about ancient Greece and the people who lived there have been learnt from the things they left behind. Special people called archaeologists have examined the buildings, objects and artefacts that have been found. They photographed them and wrote down what they found out.

Even though the civilisation of ancient Greece existed over 2,000 years ago many of the buildings still stand. This was because they were all made from stone since wood was in short supply. The Romans were very impressed by Greek architecture and copied the style of the buildings and statues. Some of these are still standing too.

Wrecks of Greek ships have been found and some even had their cargo still in their holds. Cargos included objects with pictures painted on them. Vases, pots, coins and plates have been found with pictures of farming, food, fashion, gods, myths, legends, wars and sports on them. Imagine how much these can tell us about a time we never lived in!

Ancient Greeks wrote a lot! History, politics, philosophy, war... you name it, they wrote about it. Some writings were found on tombs, clay tablets and in reliefs on buildings. Some were written on papyrus and although this rots away the Romans copied them onto stone for us first! Clever huh?

Label these pictures, all of which tell us something about life in ancient Greece.

1.  
2.  
3.  
4.  
5.  
6.
The ancient Greeks held sporting contests in honour of Zeus, the king of the gods. These events were for both religious purposes and to gain glory in winning! The Olympic Games began at Olympia back in 776 B.C. They were then held every 4 years, just like they are today. Imagine this... the starting line for the sprinting event is still there! You can see the groves carved in the stone which acted like modern day starting blocks.

The site at Olympia consisted of a stadium for the games, a chariot ring and a sacred grove where the Temple of Zeus was located. Art on vases, pots, plates and carvings on walls tell us all about the ancient games. We know they competed in the pentathlon which included the discus, long jump, javelin, sprint and wrestling; as well as in boxing, the pankration and in chariot racing. The winners were idolised!

The first Olympic race ever was called the stadion 200 yard (185m) sprint. Why was it 200 yards (185m) back then and not 100 metres? Supposedly this was as far as the god Hercules could run in a single breath. This race has given us the word stadium.

If you are thinking of taking part in an ancient Greek Olympics then there are a few things you should know.

1. Prizes are only given for first place because the Greeks believe that excellence is their only goal and that nobody tries to come second! You don’t get a medal just an olive wreath.
2. It is a men only contest and competitors have to compete naked or near naked!
3. Women are not even allowed to watch!
4. Wars are stopped while the games are held and all the city-states unite in peace for the games.
5. False starters in races are publicly punished.

Write down what you can learn about ancient Greece from this carving from the Temple of Zeus.
OLYMPIC SPORTS IN ANCIENT GREECE

In the modern Olympic games we compete in many more sports than the ancient Greeks, but how did the sports in the ancient Olympic games differ from those we do today? We know they competed in the pentathlon which included the discus, long jump, javelin, sprint and wrestling; as well as in boxing, the pankration and in chariot racing. So let’s have a look at a few of them.

There is one empty box! Choose one of the other events in the ancient Greek Olympics and find out as much as you can on that sport.

Write down what you find out and draw a picture of the event. Use another piece of paper if you run out of room or want to draw a large picture.

The long jump was done from a standing position and there was no run-up like today. Each competitor held heavy metal weights in each hand which he swung backwards and forwards before he jumped.

The discus was a more similar event to the one held today. The main difference was that the discus itself was heavier and just a flat circle of metal. Today they are 1 or 2 kilos and shaped. Oh, and you had to throw it naked!

The chariot race was very brutal with no rules as such so lots of cheating went on. The bravest and fastest man won! Today we have events like show jumping where riders compete one at a time against a clock to see who wins.
Olympic Sports Today

Athens has hosted the Olympic games again! This time it was in the year 2004. Your task is to find out who won the men’s 100m sprint, marathon, javelin, discus, long jump and chariot race. Oops! I mean modern pentathlon?

You will need to go to this website to complete the page: www.athens2004.com

What colours are the five Olympic rings?

Discus

| Name: ___________________________ |
| COUNTRY: ________________________ |
| Distance: ________________ |

| World Record | Olympic Record | Personal Best |

Javelin

| Name: ___________________________ |
| COUNTRY: ________________________ |
| Distance: ________________ |

| World Record | Olympic Record | Personal Best |

100m Sprint

| Name: ___________________________ |
| COUNTRY: ________________________ |
| Time: ________________ |

| World Record | Olympic Record | Personal Best |

Marathon

| Name: ___________________________ |
| COUNTRY: ________________________ |
| Time: ________________ |

| World Record | Olympic Record | Personal Best |

Long Jump

| Name: ___________________________ |
| COUNTRY: ________________________ |
| Distance: ________________ |

| World Record | Olympic Record | Personal Best |

Modern Pentathlon

| Name: ___________________________ |
| COUNTRY: ________________________ |
| Score: ________________ |

| World Record | Olympic Record | Personal Best |
ANCIENT GREEK OLYMPIC HEROES

Back in the ancient times there were no advertising deals with shoe companies to earn money for famous athletes! The athletes competed for pride, patriotism, and religious honour. However, some very popular athletes were lucky enough to be paid large sums of money to participate in smaller events in their home city-states.

The Olympic winners received a wreath made from an olive tree branch. The branches were cut from a sacred tree which grew in the garden of the Temple of Zeus and was supposedly planted by Hercules.

Find out and fill in the information about the two modern day Olympic heroes.

DIAGORAS

FROM: Rhodes
EVENT: Boxing
WON: 464 B.C. in the 79th Olympiad
Diagoras was a noble man who competed and won in other major sporting festivals as well. It was claimed that Diagoras was the son of the god Hermes. Such legends were a common way of explaining how mere men could perform superhuman athletic tasks.

MILO

FROM: Kroton
EVENT: Wrestling
WON: 532 to 516 B.C. - a 5 time champion
Milo was born in southern Italy, where Greece had many colonies. Milo enjoyed showing off his strength by holding his breath and breaking a cord tied around his head with his bulging forehead veins! Milo excelled in warfare also. Once when Kroton was attacked Milo went into the battle wearing his Olympic wreath and a lion's skin and led his fellow citizens to victory.

MICHAEL PHELPS

FROM: ___________________________
EVENT: __________________________
WON: ______________________________

Michael Phelps

BEN AINSLIE

FROM: ___________________________
EVENT: __________________________
WON: ______________________________

Ben Ainslie
ART ACTIVITY - OLYMPIC GAMES IMAGERY

During the ancient Greek Olympic games events were held in the sprint, marathon, chariot race, javelin, discus, long jump, boxing and wrestling.

We know this from the art on vases, artefacts and buildings. Find and look at as many pictures from different sources about the ancient Greek games as you can. Using an ancient Greek style of drawing decorate this vase.
### Comparing the Modern & Ancient Games

*In the table below are statements about the modern and ancient Olympic games. Answer yes or no for each statement in the modern and ancient column.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statement</th>
<th>Modern</th>
<th>Ancient</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. The games are a religious festival to worship Zeus.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Only Greeks can compete.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Women can compete and watch.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. All wars and fighting stop.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Only city-states compete and unite together.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. There are first, second and third places in each event.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Winners get a medal made from gold.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Winners get a wreath made from the olive tree.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. The games are held every four years.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Lots of soldiers take part because they are strong and fast.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. The athletes are often full-time soldiers.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. The events were rough and full of cheating.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. There are roughly 8 different sports in the Olympics.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15. The Olympics are always held in Greece.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16. In athletics competitors wear running shoes or trainers.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Draw some modern day sprinters.*
OLYMPIC EVENTS WORDSEARCH

16 Olympic sports are hidden in the wordsearch. Find each one and tick them off as you go. Circle the ancient sports in red and the modern sports in blue. If they are in both the ancient and modern Olympics circle them in green.

- BOXING
- BUTTERFLY
- ARCHERY
- MARATHON
- SPRINT
- JUDO
- PANKRATION
- PENTATHLON
- TENNIS
- JAVELIN
- CHARIOT RACE
- DISCUS
- BEAM
- LONG JUMP
- TRIATHLON
- CYCLING
16 Olympic sports are hidden in the wordsearch. Find each one and tick them off as you go. Circle the ancient sports in red and the modern sports in blue. If they are in both the ancient and modern Olympics circle them in green.

- BOXING
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- CHARIOT RACE
- DISCUS
- BEAM
- LONG JUMP
- TRIATHLON
- CYCLING
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>aero-</strong></td>
<td>(Greek: air, mist, wind).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ampho-, amph-, amphi-</strong></td>
<td>(Greek: around, about, both, on both sides of, both kinds).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>anti-, ant-</strong></td>
<td>(Greek: against, opposed to, preventative; used as a prefix).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>astro-, astra-</strong></td>
<td>(Greek: star, star shaped; outer space).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>biblio-</strong></td>
<td>(Greek: book).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>bio-, -biotic</strong></td>
<td>(Greek: life).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>cardio-, cardi-, card-, -cardic, -cardia</strong></td>
<td>(Greek: heart, pertaining to the heart).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>cine-, cinem-, cinema-, cinemat-, cinemato-</strong></td>
<td>(Greek: move, movement, set in motion).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>-crat, -cracy, -cratic</strong></td>
<td>(Greek: a suffix; govern, rule; strength, power).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>demo-, -demic</strong></td>
<td>(Greek: people).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>dermo-, derma-, -derm, -derma, -dermatic, -dermatous, -dermis, -dermal</strong></td>
<td>(Greek: skin).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>dyna-, dynamo-, -dynamic</strong></td>
<td>(Greek: power, strength, force, mightiness).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>eco-</strong></td>
<td>(Greek: house, environment, habitat, home, dwelling).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>epi-</strong></td>
<td>(Greek: above, over, on, upon; used as a prefix).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>geo-</strong></td>
<td>(Greek: earth, world).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>grapho-, graph-, -graph, -graphy</strong></td>
<td>(Greek: to scratch; write, record, draw, describe).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>gymno-, gymn-</strong></td>
<td>(Greek: naked, uncovered; unclad).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>hemi-</strong></td>
<td>(Greek: half).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>hydro-, hydra-</strong></td>
<td>(Greek: water).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>hyper-, hyp-</strong></td>
<td>(Greek: above, over; excessive; more than normal; used as a prefix).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>kilo-</strong></td>
<td>(Greek: one thousand).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>litho-, lith-, -lith, -lithic, -lites</strong></td>
<td>(Greek: stone, rock).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>logo-, log-</strong></td>
<td>(Greek: talk, speech, speak; word).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>mega-</strong></td>
<td>(Greek: large, great, big, powerful).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>meter-, metro-, metr-, -metrical, -metrically, -metric, -meters, -metre</strong></td>
<td>(Greek: measure).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>micro-, micr-</strong></td>
<td>(Greek: small, tiny).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>mono-, mon-</strong></td>
<td>(Greek: one, alone, single; a number used as a prefix).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>odonto-, odont-, odon-, -odont, -odontic</strong></td>
<td>(Greek: tooth, teeth).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>-ology, -logy</strong></td>
<td>(Greek: science).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ortho-, orth-</strong></td>
<td>(Greek: right, straight, correct, true; designed to correct).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>-phobia, -phobias, -phobe</strong></td>
<td>(Greek: fear, extreme fear of or terror of something).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>phono-, phon-, -phone, -phonetically, -phony</strong></td>
<td>(Greek: phone; sound; voice).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>photo-, phot-, -photic, -photography</strong></td>
<td>(Greek: light).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>polis-, polit-, poli-</strong></td>
<td>(Greek: city; method of government).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>poly-</strong></td>
<td>(Greek: many, much; too many, too much, excessive; often used as a prefix).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>pyro-, pyr-</strong></td>
<td>(Greek: fire, burn; and sometimes “fever”; heat, produced by heating).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>scoop-, scope-, -scopic</strong></td>
<td>(Greek: see, view, sight, look at, examine).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>tacho-, tach-, tachy-</strong></td>
<td>(Greek: fast, speed, swift, rapid).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>tech-, -techno</strong></td>
<td>(Greek: art, skill, craft).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>tele-</strong></td>
<td>(Greek: far away, far off, at a distance).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>theo-, the-, -theism, -theist, -theistic</strong></td>
<td>(Greek: God, god, deity, divine).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>therap-, -therapy, -therapies, -therapist</strong></td>
<td>(Greek: heal, cure; treatment).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>thermo-, therm-, -thermal, -thermic, -thermos</strong></td>
<td>(Greek: heat).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>toxico-, toxic-, toxin-, -toxically, -toxin, -toxicity</strong></td>
<td>(Greek: poison).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Are you puzzled by polyphony?
Confused by cardiology?
Baffled by biology?

**Etymology** is the study of the origin of words. It’s not the study of insects, that’s entomology! Many words in English can be traced back to words the ancient Greeks used. Even the word *history* can be traced back to the ancient Greek word of *histori* meaning enquiry, knowledge and narrative.

Using the reference sheet of Greek words write down what you work out these words to mean using the definitions on that sheet. Next, look up each word in a dictionary and write down its meaning from there. Are they similar to each other?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>English word</th>
<th>Greek meaning</th>
<th>Dictionary meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>technology</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>geography</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>polyphony</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>biology</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>photography</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
GREEK WORDS WE USE TODAY

Still troubled by tachycardia?  
Puzzled by phonograph?  
Words are fun not frustrating!

Let’s see how many more words with Greek prefixes and suffixes you can find. Use a dictionary or the Internet to help you.  
A couple are done to start you off!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>bio-</th>
<th>anti-</th>
<th>tele-</th>
<th>kilo-</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>biology</td>
<td>antibiotic</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-phone</td>
<td>geo-</td>
<td>micro-</td>
<td>graph/-/graph</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>microphone</td>
<td>geography</td>
<td>phonograph</td>
<td>grapheme</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
If you have ever heard anyone use the phrase “from alpha to omega” they mean from beginning to end. Alpha is the first letter of the Greek alphabet and omega is the last! The word **alphabet** comes from the two letter names **alpha** and **beta**.

Using the chart to help you see if you can work out what the names below are in English.

1. Εοργε
2. Παυλ
3. Ανν
4. Τιμ
5. Ενη

Now try writing these words out in Greek.

1. dog
2. name
3. girl
4. think
5. good
ANCIENT GREEK ART

We can learn a lot about the lives of the ancient Greeks by looking at their different *art forms*. Greek art mainly falls into four forms: *architecture, sculpture, painting* and *painted pottery*.

Architecture includes houses, temples, tombs, public buildings, theatres and stadia.

Sculpture includes small figures and life-size statues. It also includes relief sculptures which were on the sides of buildings.

Very few Greek *painted pictures* have survived the 2400 years since they were painted but the pictures they painted on pottery have survived quite well. *Pottery*, even if it gets broken, can be put back together and lots of it has survived hidden inside tombs and ships.

On vases the Greeks loved to depict images of brave, courageous men fighting in wars. Most images of men and women showed them to be strong and youthful. Horses, chariots, athletic competitions and many of the gods were also painted on pottery.

The works of the ancient Greeks are seen by many art historians as the foundation of western art and ideas.

*Look carefully at one of the flattened vase paintings above. Write down what you can learn about the ancient Greeks from the image.*
Ancient Greek Buildings

**Architecture** is the study and design of buildings. The ancient Greeks built many great buildings that have inspired more recent government and public buildings to be designed in what is called the **classical Greek style**. These newer buildings featured Greek style **columns**, **pediments** and **capitals**.

The earlier Greek temples were built in the **Doric** style. Around 440 B.C., in the classical period, the Greeks began to build in a new style called **Ionic**. They built gymnasia, stadia, temples and later semicircular theatres. The ancient Greeks even began to lay streets out in straight lines.

Later, with the conquests of **Alexander the Great**, architecture became an important way to spread Greek culture and show who was in charge in the conquered land.

Although the Greeks borrowed some of their architectural features from the Egyptians, such as columns, they redesigned the style of them. Later the Romans did exactly the same thing to the Greeks!

**Colour in the buildings on this page that show some Greek architectural features.**
This famous mathematician was born in 298 B.C. in Syracuse. He is most famous for working out the value of pi, an important formula in geometry. He famously shouted 'Eureka!' which means 'I've found it!' and ran through the streets naked after he worked out a tricky problem set by King Hiero.

This man is thought of as the founder of medicine. He was born in 460 B.C. on the island of Cos. He was the first man to recognise and write down the symptoms of illnesses. Today all doctor's swear an oath named after him based on his ideas of how a doctor should treat his or her patients.

This man is one of the greatest philosophers of all times. He was born to an aristocratic family in Athens. In 389 B.C. he founded a school called the Academus. The Academy taught subjects such as biology, mathematics, politics, and philosophy. At the heart of his philosophy is his theory of Forms.

This mathematician was born about 569 B.C. in Samos. He is most famous for his geometry theory which is named after him. This theorem states that in a right angled triangle, the square of the shorter two sides (a and b) will be equal to the square of side c (the hypotenuse).

This man is one of the greatest philosophers of all times. He was born to an aristocratic family in Athens. In 389 B.C. he founded a school called the Academus. The Academy taught subjects such as biology, mathematics, politics, and philosophy. At the heart of his philosophy is his theory of Forms.

This mathematician was born in 330 B.C. this man wrote a textbook called The Elements which outlined many ideas about 2-D and 3-D shapes as well as the theory of numbers. Many of his ideas are still used in maths today. He is considered the founder of the branch of mathematics called geometry.

This man is one of the greatest philosophers of all times. He was born to an aristocratic family in Athens. In 389 B.C. he founded a school called the Academus. The Academy taught subjects such as biology, mathematics, politics, and philosophy. At the heart of his philosophy is his theory of Forms.
A C.V. (Curriculum Vitae) FOR PYTHAGORAS

A C.V. tells the reader all the important personal details and work history of a person. Complete this C.V. for Pythagoras. Get help at: http://www.crystalinks.com/pythagoras.html

Name: ___________________________
Place of birth: ___________________________
Year born: ___________________________
Year died: ___________________________
Occupations: ___________________________

Name of father: ___________________________
Occupation of father: ___________________________
Name of mother: ___________________________
Number of brothers: ___________________________

Instrument played: ___________________________
Teachers: ___________________________

In 535 B.C. Pythagoras went to Egypt and... ___________________________

In about 530 B.C. Pythagoras settled in Crotona, a Greek colony in southern Italy. Whilst there he... ___________________________

Pythagoras studied the properties of numbers which are familiar to mathematicians today, such as even and odd numbers, triangular numbers and perfect numbers. In the field of mathematics he is particularly remembered for his... ___________________________
WOMEN IN ANCIENT GREECE

There was a big difference in the way women were treated in the different city-states of ancient Greece. The unfortunate women of Athens led a much more restricted life than the women of Sparta.

In Sparta women usually married at the age of eighteen and looked after their sons until they reached the age of seven when they went to military school. Spartan women were not able to vote but did seem to have a great influence behind the scenes. Unlike in Athens, Spartan women were allowed to own land and property. They were also expected to train in the arts and in athletics at girl only military schools. Women tended to run life in day to day Sparta as the men lived and worked in the army until the age of sixty! Having no men around most of the time meant that the women could do as they wished!

In Athens it was a very different story. Most Greek philosophers of the time believed that women were ruled by their emotions rather than their minds and because of this they were not allowed to make important decisions. Every Athenian woman had a kyrios or guardian. This was either a male relative or her husband. The kyrios dictated who a woman married and what she could and could not do. Women in Athens were not allowed to own their home and usually married around the age of twelve! A women in Athens only had two aims in life; one to look after the home and the other to have children. Women in Athens were allowed to meet up together but they were not usually allowed to socialise with men.

Would you rather have been a woman in ancient Sparta or ancient Athens? Why? Discuss this with the class or write a paragraph detailing your reasons.
Helen woke to the sounds of Sellene, the slave, pouring water into a bowl for her to wash with. She hopped out of bed and after a quick wash and breakfast went to greet her mother, Diana, who was sitting in the courtyard. “Ah! Helen it is time for your lessons.” Helen sighed, how she wished she could go to school like her brother Andreus! He went to school with his friends. “Now Helen, don’t frown!” said her mother. Helen sat down with her wax tablet and with her mother’s help began to write the letters of the Greek alphabet. Sellene busied herself cleaning the house. “That’s enough for today. Let’s sing together!” her mother said cheerily after what seemed like ages!

Helen enjoyed singing and it was much more fun than writing. She was also learning how to play the flute. After lunch Helen and her mother went into the weaving room. Helen settled down watching her mother as she wove an elaborate pattern on the big loom. “Are you going to weave some of your basket?” asked her mother. Helen sat down to weave but the reeds made her fingers sore. “We will make a good wife of you yet Helen!” laughed her mother.

When Andreus came home he was full of excitement about the Olympic Games which were to be held soon. Helen and her mother weren’t allowed to go though and she felt very jealous. “It is so unfair! We can’t go with you!” she muttered. “But at least we are all going to the theatre together tonight.” she said. When they got to the theatre near the Acropolis Helen was in awe. It was so large and there were thousands of people there. Helen loved the evening out. It was such a change from being at home all the time. She was really sorry when the play finished and it was time to go back to her domestic life. Andreus teased her that she was too independent to make a good wife! It had been a busy day though and as she went to bed she thanked the goddess Athena for watching over her.

After reading the story about Helen’s brother, Andreus, decide if you would rather have been a boy or a girl in ancient Athens? Discuss why with the class or write a paragraph explaining your reasons.
Andreus jumped out of bed excited to be going to school. He was ten now and had been going to school for three years. Andreus loved to listen to the stories by Homer that his teacher read out loud. They were now reading The Odyssey and Andreus had been given a short piece to write out and learn. The Odyssey was a great story full of drama and was about the adventures of Odysseus. Andreus longed to have adventures like Odysseus. “Perhaps one day,” he thought “I too will travel far!”.

Andreus was walked to school by his father, Herios, who carried his wax writing tablet for him. Once at school he played with his yo-yo together with his friend Darius. The first lesson of the day was writing followed by maths, public speaking, drama and art. It was then time for Andreus to recite the passage he had learnt. Andreus was very nervous and blushed bright red as he spoke. His teacher smiled and said “I see you may yet prove to be as gifted as your brother!”. Andreus’s brother was twenty and was now studying with the great philosopher Plato.

For lunch Andreus ate bread and goat’s cheese washed down with goat’s milk. After lunch he practised the lyre. This stringed instrument was quite hard to play but he was doing well. The rest of the afternoon was spent on the sports field and they practised ball games, wrestling and jumping.

In the evening Andreus and his family went to the theatre. His parents thought that going to the theatre was an important part of his education and Helen was able to come too. When they finally returned home it was quite late and Andreus longed for his bed and a good long sleep!
Alexander shifted on the uncomfortable rush mattress. He and the other boys in his barracks had gathered the tops of the rushes from the banks of the river. They were hard to break off and with no knife had cut into their hands. He could hear the other boys begin to wake and next to him his friend, Filippos, sighed. Alexis, another boy, had stretched out so much that he had most of the bed! Alexander hated sleeping in the barracks with so many others, but that was life at military school. He nodded off again for what he thought was a few minutes but when he awoke he heard shouts outside and realised that he was late!

He ran outside only to receive a lashing from the whip of Stamos. “You lazy beast!” he shouted. “You will never make a Spartan warrior at this rate! You will get no food today! That will teach you to sleep late!”. Stamos was a prefect, and at the age of sixteen had been at the school for ten years.

Some of the older boys were heading out to begin the Krypteia. This lasted for many days and they had to hide out in the countryside on their own finding what food they could. If they were found the punishment would be severe. It made them strong.

Alexander and the younger boys spent the morning working on their running and hunting skills. They also learnt songs about famous Spartan battles and sang these when they practised marching. Occasionally they had a reading or writing lesson, but not today.

Later they walked barefoot to the arena. Here they studied fighting skills. Alexis was a good wrestler and while he and Filippos fought Alexander sneaked off to find food. It was going to be the only meal he would get. He knew that if he could take the food without getting caught it would be worth it. If he was caught it would mean another beating with the whip. Stealing didn’t bother Alexander. As a Spartan soldier you had to take an opportunity when you saw it! To do any less was a weakness. “I am going to be the greatest Spartan warrior ever!” Alexander thought to himself. Suddenly he heard a noise behind him..........

On the back of the sheet write a final paragraph to finish the story.

Would you like to have been a boy in military school or regular school?
Were Ancient Greek Schools Like Ours Today?

In the table below are statements about schools today. Answer TRUE or FALSE for each statement in relation to ancient Greek schools in Athens and Sparta.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statement about schools today</th>
<th>Athens</th>
<th>Sparta</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. All boys and girls go to school.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. We go to school when we are five years old.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Maths, reading and writing are the most important subjects.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Fighting and wrestling each other is not allowed.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. We learn about history and geography.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. We do not learn about public speaking.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. We have art classes and sometimes put on plays.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Girls and boys are treated the same.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. We do not get whipped if we are naughty.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. We get plenty of food at lunch time.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. We learn to play football and go swimming.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. We do not sleep at our school in barracks.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. We are not in training to be soldiers.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. We learn songs in music lessons.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15. Generally school is quite fun and we enjoy it.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Using your Greek alphabet sheet translate these school subjects.

ΜΑΘΣ  ΡΕΑΔΙΝΓ
ΑΡΤ  ΔΡΑΜΑ

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MEDICINE IN ANCIENT GREECE

Like the Egyptians the Greeks at first based many of their ideas about medicine on their religious beliefs. The god Asclepios was very popular, and as the god of healing people believed that visiting a temple dedicated to him could heal them. Later the ancient Greeks became the first people to study medicine with a view to diagnosing and treating an illness.

Hippocrates was one of the first men to adopt this scientific approach to medicine. He studied the symptoms and causes of diseases and used this work to develop a suitable treatment. He believed that illnesses were caused naturally and that they were not the result of bad spirits. He wrote the Hippocratic Oath which is still said by doctors today. Hippocrates is sometimes called the Father of Medicine and his ideas spread far and wide.

Medical schooling began with Hippocrates and his school became very popular. In the centuries to follow the study of anatomy and surgery came along in leaps and bounds. The first vets even started appearing to treat animals.

Medicine was not regulated like it is today so doctors sold their skills and knowledge like other craftsmen to make extra money! Overall the ancient Greeks had a great influence on the science of medicine. It was largely thanks to them, and in particular Hippocrates, that medicine is like it is today!

Answer the following questions on the back of the sheet or discuss them with the class.

1. Who was the god of Healing?
2. Why did people think visiting a temple dedicated to him could heal them?
3. What changed this belief?
4. Do you think going to see a doctor was similar to visiting one today?
5. Do you think there were tablets and medicines like today?
The Life of a Slave in Ancient Greece

Slavery was an accepted part of life in ancient Greece and slaves worked in the home as servants, in shops, on farms and on ships as crew and rowers. Today we find slavery a terrible thing but to the ancient Greeks it was normal. A wealthy house could have as many as twenty slaves. It is thought that there may actually have been more slaves in ancient Greece than free people!

Some people were born into slavery and others were prisoners from the many wars. Sometimes if a family was poor they might even sell one of their children into slavery for money!

Some slaves were treated very well and others terribly. If you were lucky and found yourself working for a kind family you could be treated almost as one of the family. If you were unlucky and had a cruel master then your life would have been very miserable. You would have been hungry and poorly clothed. Slaves had no rights at all and were not usually even allowed to keep their own name.

One strange fact about slavery in ancient Greece is that the police force of Athens consisted almost entirely of slaves! Slaves who were unfortunate enough to work in mines or on ships had the worst lives of all and worked in terrible conditions. Most died after a fairly short time. The Spartans had slaves to grow food for them on farms. Even though there was food all around them they were not allowed to keep much for themselves.

Write down a list of jobs that you think a slave in a ancient Greek home would do.

________________________________________
________________________________________
________________________________________
________________________________________
________________________________________
________________________________________
**WHAT DID ANCIENT GREECE PASS DOWN TO US?**

In the table below are fifteen different statements. Answer **yes** if the statement describes something that the ancient Greeks passed down to us or **no** if it isn’t.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statement</th>
<th>Yes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Columns in architecture.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Treating illnesses with medicine.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Myths and stories about the Greek gods.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. The technology to build the engine.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. The concept of democracy in politics.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. How to run a country as a whole united unit.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. The Olympic Games every four years.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. The field sports of the discus and javelin.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. The study of foreign languages.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. The study of history and science.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. Comedy and tragedy themes in plays.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. Revolutionary discoveries in maths that we still use today.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15. Great works of art in the form of literature to read.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TRUTH OR MYTH?</td>
<td>FACT OR FICTION?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------</td>
<td>------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Truth</td>
<td>Myth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Myth</td>
<td>Fact</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Read the sentences about ancient Greece and decide whether they are a truth or a myth.

1. The goddess Athena came out of the head of Zeus.  
2. The Olympic Games originated in ancient Greece.  
3. Slaves were very common in ancient Greece.  
4. Zeus could throw thunderbolts.  
5. The god Poseidon created huge storms at sea.  
6. The Greeks believed in gods called Apollo and Ares.  
7. The agora was a market square in the centre of town.  
8. Spartan men had to serve in the army until age 60.  
9. Athena and Poseidon had a competition for Athens.

Read these sentences about ancient Greece and decide whether they are fact or fiction.

10. The word stadium comes from ancient Greece.  
11. There was a large battle at Marathon.  
12. This battle led to the name of the marathon running event.  
13. Mount Olympus was the home of the gods.  
14. Sparta had the strongest and bravest army.  
15. The word democracy was founded in Athens.  
16. Another word for city-state is polis.  
17. The gods could heal illnesses.  
18. The Elgin Marbles are from Greece.  
19. Cheating was encouraged in chariot racing events.  
20. Wax tablets were used to write on in school.
Below are the answers to the quizzes features in the pack.

### Page 4

1. Yes  No
2. No  Yes
3. Yes  No
4. No  Yes
5. No  Yes
6. No  Yes
7. Yes  No
8. Yes  No
9. Yes  No
10. No  Yes
11. Yes  No
12. Yes  No
13. Yes  No
14. Yes  No
15. No  Yes

### Page 11

- **Zeus**: God of the gods!
- **Hera**: Goddess of marriage
- **Hestia**: Goddess of the hearth
- **Athena**: Goddess of wisdom, war and the arts
- **Poseidon**: God of the sea
- **Hephaestus**: God of fire and craftsmen
- **Herms**: The messenger god
- **Demeter**: Goddess of corn and the harvest
- **Artemis**: Goddess of wildlife, archery and hunting
- **Aphrodite**: Goddess of love and beauty
- **Apollo**: God of the sun
- **Ares**: God of war
- **Dionysus**: God of wine
- **Hades**: God of the Underworld
- **Iris**: Goddess of the rainbow
- **Eros**: God of love

- **Eagle**, thunderbolt and oak tree
- **Peacock**
- **Fire**
- **Owl**, spear, shield and olive tree
- **Axe**
- **Winged hat**
- **Torch and corn**
- **Deer and bow**
- **Dove**, sceptre and myrtle
- **Bow and lyre**
- **Spear**
- **Ivy**, snake and grapes
- **Sceptre and cornucopia**
- **Winged boots**
- **Bow and cupid**

### Page 12

1. C
2. B
3. D
4. A
5. G
6. J
7. K
8. E
9. F
10. H

### Page 13

1. Coin
2. Vase or Pot
3. Statue or Sculpture
4. Building
5. Ship, Boat or Trireme
6. Plate
7. Coin
8. Vase or Pot
9. Statue or Sculpture
10. Building
11. Ship, Boat or Trireme
12. Plate

### Page 17

Zeus: God of the gods!
Hera: Goddess of marriage
Hestia: Goddess of the hearth
Athena: Goddess of wisdom, war and the arts
Poseidon: God of the sea
Hephaestus: God of fire and craftsmen
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Aphrodite: Goddess of love and beauty
Apollo: God of the sun
Ares: God of war
Dionysus: God of wine
Hades: God of the Underworld
Iris: Goddess of the rainbow
Eros: God of love

### Page 18

1. C
2. B
3. D
4. A
5. C
6. B
7. D
8. A
9. B
10. C
11. B
12. D
13. A
14. B
15. C

### Page 19

1. Coin
2. Vase or Pot
3. Statue or Sculpture
4. Building
5. Ship, Boat or Trireme
6. Plate
7. Coin
8. Vase or Pot
9. Statue or Sculpture
10. Building
11. Ship, Boat or Trireme
12. Plate

### Page 22

1. True
2. False
3. True
4. False
5. True
6. False
7. True
8. False
9. True
10. False
11. True
12. False
13. True
14. False
15. True

### Page 23

1. Myth
2. Truth
3. Myth
4. Myth
5. Myth
6. Truth
7. Truth
8. Truth
9. Myth
10. Fact
11. Fact
12. Fact
13. Fiction
14. Fact
15. Fact
16. Fact
17. Fiction
18. Fact
19. Fact
20. Fact

### Page 28

1. No  Yes
2. No  Yes
3. Yes  No
4. No  Yes
5. No  Yes
6. Yes  No
7. Yes  No
8. No*  Yes
9. Yes  Yes
10. No  Yes
11. No  Yes
12. No  Yes
13. No  Yes
14. Yes  No
15. No  Yes
16. No  Yes

* Only Yes for 2004 in Athens.

### Page 29

1. George
2. Paul
3. Ann
4. Tim

### Page 30

1. Myth
2. Truth
3. Myth
4. Myth
5. Myth
6. Truth
7. Truth
8. Truth
9. Myth
10. Fact
11. Fact
12. Fact
13. Fiction
14. Fact
15. Fact
16. Fact
17. Fiction
18. Fact
19. Fact
20. Fact

### Page 31

1. Coin
2. Vase or Pot
3. Statue or Sculpture
4. Building
5. Ship, Boat or Trireme
6. Plate

### Page 32

1. Coin
2. Vase or Pot
3. Statue or Sculpture
4. Building
5. Ship, Boat or Trireme
6. Plate
7. Coin
8. Vase or Pot
9. Statue or Sculpture
10. Building
11. Ship, Boat or Trireme
12. Plate

### Page 33

1. Myth
2. Truth
3. Myth
4. Myth
5. Myth
6. Truth
7. Truth
8. Truth
9. Myth
10. Fact
11. Fact
12. Fact
13. Fiction
14. Fact
15. Fact
16. Fact
17. Fiction
18. Fact
19. Fact
20. Fact

### Page 34

1. Myth
2. Truth
3. Myth
4. Myth
5. Myth
6. Truth
7. Truth
8. Truth
9. Myth
10. Fact
11. Fact
12. Fact
13. Fiction
14. Fact
15. Fact
16. Fact
17. Fiction
18. Fact
19. Fact
20. Fact

### Page 35

1. Myth
2. Truth
3. Myth
4. Myth
5. Myth
6. Truth
7. Truth
8. Truth
9. Myth
10. Fact
11. Fact
12. Fact
13. Fiction
14. Fact
15. Fact
16. Fact
17. Fiction
18. Fact
19. Fact
20. Fact