



Prior knowledge

Greece is a country in the continent of Europe.
The weather/climate of Greece is slightly different to that of the UK.
Wars are fought between different countries.



Key Vocabulary

- Acropolis** - An acropolis is fortress within a larger city. It is usually located on top of a hill in the centre of the city.
- Assembly** - In Athens, the Assembly consisted of the group of citizens who showed up to vote.
- Democracy** - A form of government where citizens have a say in how they are ruled including choosing their leaders and deciding on laws.
- Oligarchy** - A type of government where the power is held by a few people.
- Olympics** - An athletic event held by the Ancient Greeks every four years.
- Titans** - The Titans were the first Greek Gods.
- Tyrant** - The ruler of a Greek city.
- Empire** - A large group of states or countries ruled by a single monarch or an oligarchy.
- Slaves** - A person who is the legal property of another and is forced to obey them.
- Marathon** - A long-distance running race.
- Temple** - A building devoted to the worship of a God.

When?

Ancient Greece was a civilization belonging to a period of Greek history from the Greek Dark Ages of the 12th-9th centuries.

Where?

Greece is located at the crossroads of three continents: Europe, Asia and Africa

Key Events

- 776 BC - The first Olympic games take place in honour of Greece.
- 600 BC - The first Greek coins are used to buy and sell goods.
- 570 BC - Pythagoras is born. He made major breakthroughs in Science and Maths.
- 432 BC - The most famous building in Athens (the Parthenon) is completed.
- 400-300 BC - Socrates, Plato and Aristotle live during this time, they advanced learning.
- 146 BC - Rome conquers Greece, making it a part of the Roman Empire.

Greek Heroes

A Greek hero was a brave and strong man that was favoured by the Gods. He would be brave throughout dangerous adventures. Sometimes the hero, even though mortal, was somehow related to the Gods.

- Hercules - A son of Zeus and the greatest hero in Greek Mythology, Hercules had a lot of physical work to carry out. He was very strong and fought many monsters in his adventures.
- Achilles - The greatest hero of the Trojan War. Achilles was invulnerable except for his heel.



Olympic Gods

The Titans

The Titans were the first Gods. There were twelve of them including the parents of Zeus, Cronus and Rhea. They ruled during what was called 'The Golden Age.' They were overthrown by their children, led by Zeus.

The Olympians

The twelve Olympian Gods were the major Gods of the Greeks and lived on Mount Olympus. They included:

- Zeus - Leader of the Olympians and god of the sky and lightning.
- Hera - Queen of the Gods and married to Zeus. She is the goddess of marriage and family.
- Poseidon - God of the ocean, earthquakes and horses. He is Zeus' and Hades' brother.
- Dionysus - Lord of wine and celebrations. Patron god of the theatre and art. He is the son of Zeus and the youngest Olympian.
- Apollo - Greek god of archery, music, light and prophecy. His twin sister is Artemis.
- Artemis - Goddess of the hunt, archery and animals. Her twin brother is Apollo.
- Hermes - God of commerce and thieves. Hermes is also the messenger of the gods. His son Pan is the God of nature.
- Athena - Greek goddess of wisdom, defence and war. She is the patron God of Athens.
- Ares - God of war. He is the son of Zeus and Hera.
- Aphrodite - Goddess of love and beauty. She is married to Hephaestus.
- Hephaestus - God of fire. Blacksmith and craftsman for the gods. He is married to Aphrodite.
- Demeter - Goddess of agriculture and the seasons.

