



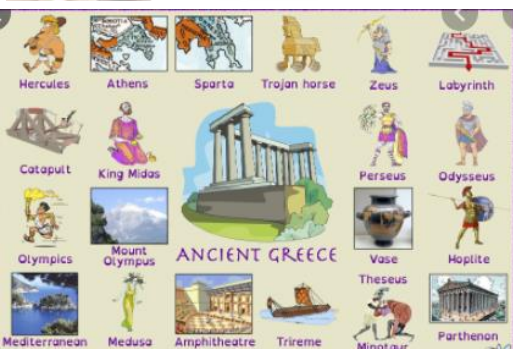
Y6-Knowledge Organiser –Ancient Greece

Key Facts

- The Ancient Greeks were most prominent between 800BCE and 100BCE.
- Greece's position next to the sea (there are over 1400 islands) meant Ancient Greeks were a seafaring people. Trade between the islands led to the creation of 'city-states' (polis).
- Each city-state was ruled by a powerful city, led by a ruler or (later) government.
- Greece is a warm country, but winds from the Mediterranean, and rains from the north, kept temperatures liveable and created fertile farming conditions.
- The Greeks were famous for many things including: myths, and legends, the birth of democracy, inventions and competitive sports known as the Olympics.
- The Ancient Greeks mostly ate bread dipped in wine, cheeses, fish, olives, and vegetables. Meat was eaten on rare occasions, such as festivals. Watered down wine was the main drink.
- Ancient Greek homes were built around a courtyard, which was the centre of activity. Around the courtyard were the rooms of the house, including work rooms and bedrooms.
- The Ancient Greeks wore a tunic called a 'chiton' – worn by both men and women. Chitons came in many colours.

Key Vocabulary

- **Acropolis**- fortified city core located on a rocky outcrop above Athens.
- **Archaeologists** -scientists who study archaeology, which is the study of things that people made, used, and left behind.
- **City state**-a city that had its own government and rules the area around it e.g. Athens, Sparta, Corinth, Delphi & Thebes (Greek = Polis)
- **Democracy**-a system of government where eligible people elect representatives.
- **Minotaur**- a creature in Greek mythology, who had the body of a man and the head of a bull.
- **Mount Olympus**- the highest mountain in Greece and the mythological home of the Greek Gods, primarily twelve Olympian Gods
- **Olympics**- sporting event and sacrifice held every four years in honour of Zeus.
- **Parthenon**- temple dedicated to Athena located on the Athenian Acropolis.
- **Polytheistic**- religious system where people believe in or worship more than one god.
- **Titans**-an older generation of Gods who were the children of earlier Gods and parents to the Olympian Gods.



Timeline of events

- 1200BC-Start of the Ancient Greek civilisation.
- 900BC-Development of the Ancient Greek alphabet.
- 776 BC – The first Olympic games took place in honour of Greece.
- 600 BC – The first Greek coins were used to buy and sell goods.
- 570 BC – Pythagoras was born. He made major breakthroughs in science and maths.
- 508 BC– Democracy began in Athens, giving greater power to the people.
- 490BC-The Battle of Marathon.
- 432 BC – The Parthenon, the most famous building in Athens, was completed.
- 400-300 BC – Socrates, Plato and Aristotle lived, advanced learning
- 336 BC– Alexander the Great is King and completed many conquests.
- 146 BC – Rome conquered Greece, making it a part of the Roman Empire.

