

The Knowledge

Supporting the National Curriculum



Knowing More

Remembering More

Learning More

Ancient Greece



ARDLEIGH GREEN
JUNIOR SCHOOL

Year 4
History

Key Dates

Timeline of ancient Greece

c1600 BC	Greek civilisation begins. City-states are formed.
c1200 BC	The Trojan War is fought between ancient Greek city-states and the city of Troy.
c850–700 BC	The Greek alphabet is developed.
776 BC	The first Olympic Games are held in honour of the god Zeus.
c750–700 BC	Homer, a great poet, writes two long poems about the Trojan War called <i>The Iliad</i> and <i>The Odyssey</i> .
c600 BC	Greek coins are introduced.
c508 BC	Democracy is introduced in Athens, where citizens vote for people to be their representatives.
490 BC	The Greeks win the Battle of Marathon against the Persians.
c461 BC	The first Peloponnesian War is fought between Athens and Sparta.
c449–431 BC	Pericles, ruler of Athens, builds a temple called the Parthenon and supports playwrights, sculptors and thinkers.
431 BC	The second Peloponnesian War begins between Athens and Sparta.
336 BC	Alexander the Great, King of Macedonia, invades and conquers Persia and Egypt.
323 BC	Ancient Greek civilisation begins to decline after the death of Alexander the Great.
146 BC	The Romans conquer ancient Greece and Greece becomes part of the Roman Empire.

Key Facts

The ancient Greeks lived about 4000 years ago. Ancient Greece was made up of many city-states. These city-states were protected by a powerful city. Each city-state had its own laws, customs and rulers. Many city-states were at war with each other.

War was a big part of life and many armies were mainly made up of foot soldiers known as hoplites. They fought with a long spear and used a large shield.

Key Vocabulary

Conquer: To take control of another country and its people, usually after a war or battle.

Democracy: A system where the government is elected by the people.

God: A worshipped immortal being or spirit who is believed to have supreme power over some part of life.

Hoplite: A heavily armoured, non-professional foot soldier of ancient Greece.

Test Yourself

What does it mean to conquer?

What is a democracy?

How many years ago was Ancient Greece?

What is a city-state?

What weapons did the soldiers have?

What were the names of the different types of soldiers?

What Greek myths do you know?

What I would like to know...