

Map showing Ancient Greece



Year Five and Six History Ancient Greece



The Ancient Greeks were one of the most **influential** civilisations in history; they had a significant impact on modern society. Although eventually **conquered** by the Romans, Greek language, culture and philosophy spread far and wide.

Aspects of The Ancient Greek legacy:

- The first to introduce a **democratic** system of government.
- Physical education and competitive sports: the **Olympic Games**.
- **Famous literature**, such as Homer's 'The Iliad' and 'The Odyssey'.
- Scientific and mathematical ideas.
- **Characteristic features of architectural design**.
- The arts: sculpture and ideas about beauty; The theatre and storytelling.

Greek buildings and **artefacts** (such as **amphoras**- pots) provide lots of primary evidence to help us understand daily life in Ancient Greece.



Chronology. The Ancient Greek period can be traced back to the Minoan civilisation around 2700 BCE

900 BCE	776 BCE	600 BCE	507 BCE	480 BCE	447- 432 BCE	146 BC
Development of Ancient Greek alphabet	First Olympic games	Greek coin currency introduced	Start of democratic system in Athens	Athenians defeated the Persian army at the Battle of Salamis	Parthenon built	Greeks defeated by the Romans at the battle of Corinth

democracy	A system of government in which people choose who is in charge by voting in elections.
citizens	People who belong to a place
Historical sources	Things that give information about the past.
literature	Written work, especially with artistic value
architects	People who design buildings
engineering	Using scientific knowledge to build
artefact	An ornament, tool or other object that is made by a human being.
legacies	things left behind from the past
philosophy	How people think and live
Characteristic features	Particular qualities or aspects that make something recognisable.



The Minoans were the first great Greek civilisation. After the Minoans came the Mycenaean civilisation, from mainland Greece. They were fine builders and traders, but they were also great soldiers.

After the Mycenaean age ended in about 1100BC, Greece entered

a Dark Age.

In 800BC, almost 300 years after the Dark Age began, Greek civilisation slowly emerged again.

The Greeks started trading more with the outside world, they held the first Olympic Games and they fought off the invading Persian army. This period is known by historians as the Archaic period of Greek history. Around 480BC Greece entered a golden age which lasted for 200 years. The people built fantastic temples, made scientific discoveries, wrote plays and founded the first proper democracy. Historians call

this Classical Greece.

The final period of Greek history is known as the Hellenistic period. This lasted from 323BC to 30BC, when the Romans took control of Greece.