What Did the Greeks Ever Do for Us?

Overview

Through investigating the city states of Athens and Sparta, children identify the similarities and differences between them. Using different sources of evidence, they learn about democracy and compare this to the ways in which other civilisations are governed. Considering the legacy of the Ancient Greeks, children learn about the Olympic games, architecture, art and theatre.

Essential Knowledge

Describe the Features of ancient Greece

Understand what the Greeks believe

Identify key periods in the ancient Greek civilization

Understand different types of democracy

Identify key achievements of Greek philosophers

Identify the ancient Greeks' legacies and their impact

What did the Greeks believe?

Who were the Greeks and when did they live?

What did the Greeks do for us?

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Hook

into a

Book

Did the ancient

Greeks give us

democracy?

Activate Prior Knowledge

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- · Making sense of their own life story and family's history
- · Comment on images of familiar situations from the past
- Know some similarities and differences between things in the past and now, drawing on their experiences and what has been read in class.
- Understand the past through settings, characters and events encountered in books read in class and storytelling.

Context: All about me, Dinosaurs, Space, Transport

KS

- Chronology of time periods. What comes before and after.
- Know the achievements of significant individuals
- Understand power is exercised in different ways in different culture, time and groups

KS2

- Understand the expansion of empires and how they were controlled
- Understand societal hierarchies and structures existed.
- Understand that society was organised in different ways in different cultures and times and consisted of different groups with different roles and lifestyles.
- Understand that there are different beliefs in different cultures, times and groups.
- compare the beliefs in different cultures, times and groups.
- Identify achievements and inventions that still influence or lives today.



How do Greek philosophers influence us today?

How was ancient Greece governed?

Gods and goddesses

Democracy



The ancient Greeks believed 12 gods and goddesses lived on Mount Olympus. The Greeks prayed to them at home and in temples and ran sporting events and festivals in their honour. They believed that if something went wrong, the gods were unhappy with them. The characters, images and abilities of the Greek gods and goddesses have influenced modern-day movies, animations, books, comics and video games.



Athenian democracy was one of the first in the world. It was a direct democracy in which the citizens themselves voted for laws in the assembly. Modern Britain has a representative democracy where people elect a representative (Member of Parliament) to make decisions on their behalf. Citizens over 18 can vote in Britain; however, in ancient Athens, only adult males born in Athens could vote.

Philosophy

SOCRATES

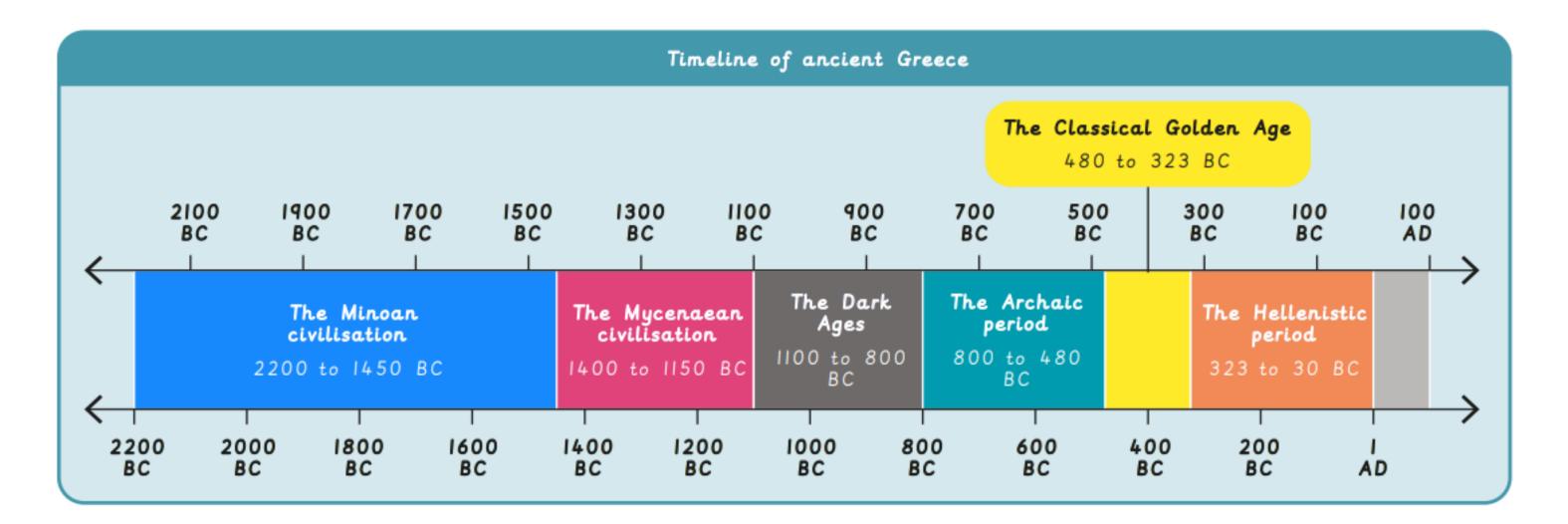




Philosophy (meaning 'love of wisdom') was developed by the ancient Greeks. Famous philosophers such as Pythagoras, Socrates, Plato and Aristotle still influence our thinking today: Pythagoras created the first maths formula, Socrates developed the Socratic method used to discuss ideas, Plato's ideas on ethics are still debated today, and Aristotle laid the foundations for modern science.

The English language

Many words in the English language
(such as character, comedy,
democracy, dinosaur, drama, planet,
geography, and technology)
originated from Greek. The Greek
alphabet (alphabetum) contributed
ten letters to the English language.
Moreover, the word alphabet comes
from the Greek letters alpha and
beta.



achievement	Something reached through hard work or effort.	direct democracy	A system of government in ancient Greece which gave all men the right to vote.
assembly	A democratic organisation in ancient Athens where all men could vote on laws.	oligarchy	A system of government in ancient Greece in which only a few people held power.
Athens	The largest and one of the most influential city-states in ancient Greece.	philosophy	The 'love of wisdom' in which people think and ask basic questions about human life.
city-state	A city or town that, with the surrounding countryside, is an independent state.	Sparta	One of the most powerful city-states in ancient Greece, known for its fierce army.
Classical Golden Period	The period from 480 BC to 323 BC in which the Greeks built temples, created democracy and made scientific discoveries.	Zeus	In Greek mythology, the god of the sky and the supreme ruler of the Olympian gods.