

Ancient Greece (c 2,500 BC to 30AD)

c age 7-8

1. Bronze Age (2,500 BC to 1100BC)
2. Archaic Age (c850BC – 600 BC)
3. Classical period (c500-400 BC)
4. Hellenistic era (350BC to 30AD)

First, draw (or print off) a **small map** of Greece to locate it in the Mediterranean. Be sure to include Crete!

Then make a **time-line** marking the divisions above. Make sure you know what the letters **BC and AD** mean. What will you write at '0' on your time-line? (Clue: a very important event!)

Do you know what a little letter 'c' means when it is written before an historical date? Try to find out!

1. The Bronze Age (2,500 BC to 1100BC)

Find out when and where 'Ancient Greece' began.

Find out what the **Minoans** and **Myceneans** were like. Read the story of **King Minos, Theseus** and the **Minotaur**.

Read about the **Trojan War** (and the **wooden horse**) which probably would have occurred around this time. If you like drawing, you could draw some illustrations of these stories.

2. Archaic Age c850BC – 600 BC

After the Bronze Age, Greece entered a '**Dark Age**' which we do not know a lot about. This was from about 1100BC to c 850BC. You can mark it on your time-line if you like.

In about 850BC Greece emerged into a new age which we call the '**Archaic Age**'.

Find out about city states. The two most famous were **Sparta** (which was very military) and **Athens** (which had the acropolis and the Parthenon). Try to draw a picture of a Spartan soldier, and perhaps one of the famous buildings in Athens (or you might draw the Goddess Athene after whom Athens was named).

Find out about the **Olympic games**, which were first held around this time.

See if you can write some letters from the **Greek alphabet** which developed at this time. Can you write your name in Greek?

At this time the poet **Homer** was writing about the Trojan War. Can you find a picture of the famous statue of him? What disability did he have?

What were Greek architecture, sculpture and pottery like in the Archaic Age? Copy some examples of the types of **columns on buildings**, and the **black figure** (and later **red figure**) **pots** which were popular at this time.

3. Classical period c500-400 BC

This is the time we usually think of when we talk about 'Ancient Greece'.

There were lots of wars:

the Persian wars (read about the battles of **Marathon, Thermopylae, Salamis**)

the Peloponnesian wars (can you find out what happened at the **Battle of Aegospotomai** in 405BC?). Who was fighting whom?

Find out what a **hoplite soldier** looked like. Try to draw one!

What were a **bireme** and a **trireme**? Copy a diagram of each if you like to draw.

What were Greek architecture and pottery like in the Classical Age? Draw some examples of the pottery from this time.

4. Hellenistic era 350BC to 30AD

Hellenistic is another word for Greek. We use it when we talk about the later years of Ancient Greece.

Try to find out a little about **Philip of Macedonia**. How did he die?

Who was **Alexander the Great**? Find out how large his empire was – you could draw a fold-out map (it was very big!).

Read about his great battles of **Issus and Guagamela**. Try to read the famous story of the **Gordian Knot**.

Which great Empire finally conquered what was left of Alexander's Empire after his death?

You might like to study the Gods and Goddesses and mythology of Ancient Greece as a Classics project.