

Westacre Middle School Knowledge Web for Year 6 Autumn — Ancient Greece



HISTORY: Historical Significance

- The Ancient Greek period of history took place after the Ancient Egyptian period, but before the Roman period. The term 'Ancient Greece' refers to the years 700-480BC.
- Ancient Greek cities traded with their neighbours for items that they could not grow or make in Greece. This trade meant their influence spread far and wide across Europe.
- Alexander the Great ruled Ancient Greece and extended the empire.
- In ancient Athens, citizens would decide the city's laws and who should be on its ruling council. This was '**democracy**' or '**rule by the people**'.



HISTORY: Cause

- The Greek belief system focussed on a series of gods; each god was responsible for a different aspect of life, and there were countless other demigods, sprites and faeries that were responsible for everything.
- Greek prayer ritual involved choosing the right deity, sacrificing an animal and sharing the offering with the priest.



HISTORY: Similarities and Differences

- In Ancient times, Greek people centred their lives around the sea, olive-growing and wine cultivation
- They enjoyed the theatre, plays and stories. They used drama to explore their world—particularly tragedy
- Archaeologists study human activity by digging up, dating and interpreting the objects of interest that they find. They preserve their findings and collect data that informs their understanding of the past. Ancient Greek artefacts—pottery, sculpture, paintings and texts survive today.



HISTORY: Change and Continuity

- Ancient Greece wasn't one unified country.
- It was made up of hundreds of independent city-states, each with their own system of government, laws, language and religious beliefs.
- These city-states varied in power and size, and their alliances could shift back and forth. They went to war with each other often.



GEOGRAPHY: Location

- Greece is located in Southern Europe, bordering the Ionian Sea and the Mediterranean Sea. The country is surrounded by water (peninsular)
- An archipelago is a group of islands. Greece has about 3,000 islands.



ART: Techniques and Effects

- Coiling is a method used to make pots. This is where clay is rolled into long coils (cylinders). Coils are placed one on top of each other to build up the vessel.
- Slip is watered down clay that is used to bond pieces of clay together.



ART: Styles and Periods



- In Ancient Greece, ceramic vessels were used in every aspect of their daily lives: for storage, carrying, mixing, serving, and drinking, and as cosmetic and perfume containers.
- Pots were decorated with geometric patterns or images of everyday life, usually in black and orange.
- Skills of potting and painting were often handed down from father to son.



DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY: Demonstrate skills and prepare dishes

- Carrots can be eaten in a variety of ways including boiled, roasted and raw
- Carrots can be cut in a variety of ways: chopped rounds, batons or grated
- When using a knife, we curl our fingers under and hold the food with our fingertips
- Flat bread is made up of flour and Greek yoghurt
- Flat bread is cooked in the frying pan on the hob
- Tzatziki is a Greek dip made up of grated cucumber, Greek yoghurt, garlic and mint



DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY: Product Testing/ Sensory Evaluation

- A successful piece of flatbread will have a wide surface and little thickness. It will be cooked throughout and browned
- Successful Tzatziki is refreshing with balanced flavours of cucumber, garlic and herbs
- Worcester is famous for its pottery (Royal Worcester)



DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY: Food Health Awareness

- The major food groups are carbohydrates, proteins, fruit and vegetables, dairy products and fats and oils
- A healthy diet is made up of a variety and balance of food and drink
- The word Meze means a taste or bite, and describes small plates of savoury snacks

Key vocabulary and meanings

Alliances – a union formed for mutual benefit

Archipelago – an extensive group of islands

***Coiling** – where clay is rolled into cylinders and placed one on top of each other

***Democracy** – means in Greek ‘rule by the people’

***Geometric** – decorated with regular lines and shapes

***Meze** – means a taste or bite and used to describe small plates of savoury snacks

***Peninsular** – an area of land, mostly surrounded by water

Slip – watered down clay that is used to bond pieces of clay together

***Sources** – are something that informs us about history / they give us clues in order to study history

Unified – to become united or whole

***Vessels** – a hollow container, especially one used to hold liquid such as a bowl or cask

