## Ancient Greek Gods and Goddesses

The ancient Greeks believed in many different gods and goddesses. Each god/goddess represented a certain aspect of humanity and each was responsible for certain parts of life too.

- · Festivals were held to celebrate the gods and goddesses.
- It is believed that the 12 most powerful gods lived on Mount Olympus.
- · Zeus was the most powerful of all the gods. He was god of the sky and the king of Mount Olympus. 🎤



| y Vocabulary  |  |
|---------------|--|
| Triumph       | a great victory or achievement   |
| Defeat        | win a victory over (someone) in a battle or other contes   |
| Occupation    | the action, state, or period of occupying or being occupied by military force  |
| Exploration   | the action of exploring an unfamiliar area   |
| Civilisation  | the society, culture, and way of life of a particular area.  |
| Conflict      | a serious disagreement or argument   |
| Hostility     | acts of warfare  |
| Source        | a place, person, or thing from which something originates or can obtained  |
| Archaeologist | a person who studies human history and prehistory through<br>the excavation of sites and the analysis of artefacts and other<br>physical remains |
| Citizen       | an inhabitant of a particular town or city.  |
| Eye-witness   | a person who has seen something happen and can give a first-<br>hand description of it   |

# **BIG QUESTION:**

What can historians learn from Ancient Greek artefacts?

Ancient Athens is where democracy began in around 508 BC. Listening to the opinions of other people and debating issues was an important part of this system. After debating issues, the ancient Athenians would vote. At that time, the only people allowed to take part in democracy were adult males who were citizens of Athens. The legacy of democracy still exists today in many parts of the world.

The Olympics

Greece in 776 BC. This

Events included boxing, wrestling,

compete in the Olympics. This was

were not treated as equals to men

The idea for the marathon also

running and chariot racing.

Women were not allowed to

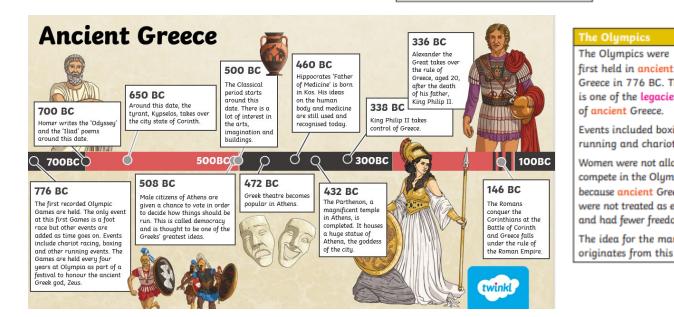
because ancient Greek women

and had fewer freedoms.

originates from this time.

is one of the legacies

of ancient Greece.



The Spartans and the Athenians

Much of what we see of the Spartans on television and in films is based on muth and does not present the Spartans accurately. The Spartans were known for their strong army and ability to fight. In childhood, boys were trained to be warriors. Girls were taught academic subjects and how to fight.

The Athenians were known for their cultural developments and learning. Girls did not go to school but many were taught how to look after the home and family.

The Trojan War is a very famous ancient Greek muth.



- Many people believe that it is a myth but that there is some historical truth behind it.
- The Trojan War was between the Greek and the Trojan Armies.
- · In the story, the Greeks pretended to surrender, leaving a gift of a giant horse for the Trojans. The gift was brought inside the city walls. During the night, Greek soldiers hiding inside the horse let the Greek army inside Troy's walls and the city was destroyed.