

Year 3 Topic Snapshot – Greek Myths

Period Overview



- This is a long chronological period: Ancient Greek culture begins around 2700 BC and ends around 150 BC.
- The Ancient Greeks did not think of themselves as belonging to a single country; what made you Greek was a shared culture and language. Your citizenship was of your town or city; you were Athenian first and Greek second.
- The geography of Greece, dominated by the sea and by mountain ranges, created and supported this local identity.
- The Ancient Greeks have given a huge legacy to modern Europe: civilisation, democracy, scientific and mathematical knowledge, written history....

Key Vocabulary

Marathon – a town. The legend about a messenger racing from Athens to Marathon inspires our marathons today!

Democracy – a system of government based on a belief in equality between all people

Olympics – The biggest sporting event in the Ancient calendar!

Key Areas



Map of Ancient Greece

-**Athens:** birthplace of democracy

-**Mount Olympus:** highest mountain in Greece and the mythical home of twelve Greek Gods

- **Sparta:** a city-state famous for developing the greatest warriors of Ancient Greece

-**Olympia:** site of the original Olympics games, where the city-states would compete

Key Texts



Orchard Book of Greek Myths – a collection of well known Greek myths, including Pandora's Box and Persephone and the Pomegranate seed.

Who Let the Gods Out? A fantastically funny adventure story based around Greek mythology set during modern day England.