



Knowledge Organiser: Ancient Greece

Map of Ancient Greece

Greece's position next to the sea (there are over 1400 islands) meant Ancient Greeks were a seafaring people. Trade between the islands led to the creation of 'city-states' (polis). Each city-state was ruled by a powerful city, led by a ruler or (later) government.



Important places:

Sparta



People from Sparta studied war and the Spartans were widely considered to have the strongest army. Sparta was ruled by two kings of equal power. They did not study philosophy, art or theatre.

Athens



Athens was a city state. It was the birthplace of democracy and was known for theatre, arts and literature.

Mount Olympus



Mount Olympus is the highest mountain in Greece. It was believed in Ancient Greek times that when things needed to be decided in the mystical world, the 12 main Gods would gather at Mount Olympus and that many lived there.

Athens vs Sparta

Athens	Sparta
They believed in good education for boys.	Boys did not have to work or be educated as they trained to be warriors from an early age.
Boys could join the army or navy if they wanted to.	Boys had to join the Spartan army.
Girls were not seen as important in Athens. Girls could be taught at home only if they had rich parents.	Although they were not to fight, girls took allowed part in training because fit women produced fit babies.
Girls were not allowed to take part in war, business or education.	Girls grew up to be mothers of warriors.
Boys were in education from 6-20 years.	Boys and girls went to school at 6 years.
Books were very expensive so boys had to memorise everything.	The boys were trained to be warriors with brutal training and harsh conditions.
Boys learnt how to play the lyre and about the poet Homer.	Girls were taught wrestling, gymnastics and combat skills.

Question: How does the role of women/men/children in Ancient Greece differ to today?