

Ancient Greece

The ancient Greeks lived about 4000 years ago. Ancient Greece was made up of many cities-states. These city-states were protected by a powerful city. Each city-state had its own laws, customs and rulers. Many city states were at war with each other.



...Greek soldiers...

War was a big part of life in ancient Greece. The armies were mainly made up of foot soldiers, known as hoplites. They fought with long spears and used a large shield for protection. In battle hoplites fought together as a team,

...God and Goddesses...

The ancient Greeks believed the gods and goddesses watched over them from the top of Mount Olympus and that each God or Goddess had power over a different part of the world.

Zeus – King of the gods and ruler of the skies

Poseidon – God of the sea

Hades – God of the underworld

Demeter – Goddess of the Earth and Harvest.

Homes

Ancient Greek homes were usually built around a central courtyard. The walls were built from wood and mud, bricks, with small windows. Rich people decorated their walls with paintings and colourful tiles.

Family

Man made all the important decisions.

Women, in most city-states, were expected to look after the home and were taught home-making skills, such as cooking and weaving. However, women and girls in Sparta had more freedom and were taught to read and write. Spartan children were sent away from home when they were 6 or 7. Boys were trained as soldiers and girls went to school.

Culture

The ancient Greeks were great craftspeople. They made pottery vases that were decorated with scenes from daily life or geometric patterns.

...GODS AND MORTALS...

