

Year 4: The Ancient Greeks and the Olympics

What should I already know?

- History refers to the passing of time
- Common words related to the passing of time
- How to ask and answer question

History -learning about past events people and decisions

N/C - a study of an aspect of history or a site dating from a period beyond 1066 that is significant in the locality.

Powerful knowledge

Significant dates, people and places

Between 2200-1450BC

The first great Greek civilisation were the Minoans-named after King Minos

1100BC

Mycenaeans from mainland Greece - fought in the battle of Troy

776BC

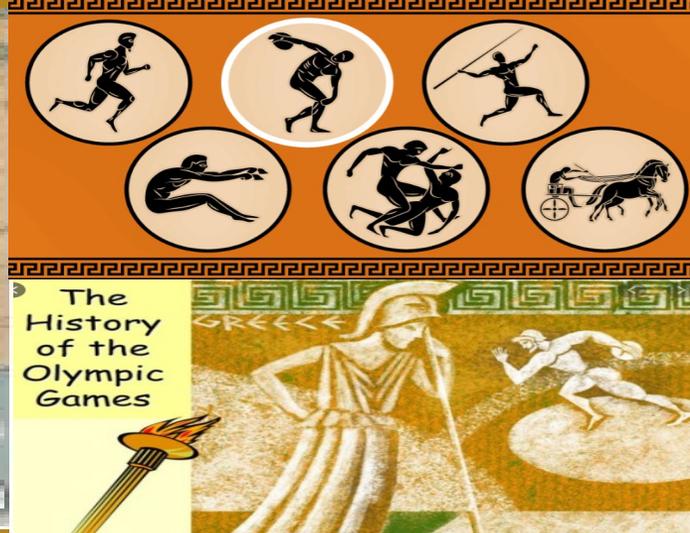
The games began in Olympia to honour Zeus - the king of Gods

480 BC

Known as Classical Greece - first proper democracy was founded, temples were built and scientific discoveries were made.

323BC-30BC

Romans took control of Greece.



Interesting facts - the ancient Olympics were different from modern games. There were less events and only free men who could speak Greek could compete instead of athletes from other countries.

Glossary/Key Events

Pankration	This was all in wrestling and there were hardly any rules
Spectators	People who came to watch the games - the stadium could hold 50,000 people.
Sacred Truce	A truce was announced one month before the games because they were a religious festival.
Where were the games held?	They were held in Olympia - hence the name Olympics. The Gods lived on Mount Olympus and the games were in honour of Zeus the king of Gods
Who competed in the games?	Athletes had to be free men who spoke Greek and before the games they had to take a vow to Zeus they had been training for ten months.
How many events were there in the Olympics?	In the original Olympics there was only one event which was a running event of around 200 metres - a second event was added around the 14 th Olympics.
How are Greek Olympics different to modern Olympics?	Greek Olympics were steeped in religion, modern Olympics are secular. Modern Olympics have a lot more events and men and women of all nationalities are invited to compete.
Who designed the Olympic symbol?	Pierre de Coubertin conceptualised a symbol of five interlaced rings which would be as universal as possible.

Key Gods

Greek Gods

Zeus

Zeus was the most powerful of all the gods. He was god of the sky and the king of Olympus. His temper affected the weather, and he threw thunderbolts when he was unhappy. He was married to Hera. Zeus had the power to transform his shape. He was ruler of all other gods and was seen as powerful, strong and unpredictable.

Did You Know?

Zeus' father was worried his children would betray him, so he ate his children.



Hermes

Hermes was Zeus's youngest son. He was very fast on his feet and very clever, so Zeus decided to make him a messenger.

Hermes always knew everything that was going on in the mythical world.

The other gods trusted Hermes. He was very clever and loyal and was a very good negotiator.

Did you know?

Many Ancient Greeks believed that Hermes was responsible for the invention of the alphabet, boxing and gymnastics.



Aphrodite

Aphrodite was the goddess of love and beauty, and the protector of sailors.

She may have been the daughter of Zeus or she may have risen from the shell on the sea.

Her skin was 'whiter than ivory', her hair as golden as the setting sun and her eyes as blue as the summer sky.

Did you know?

Aphrodite changed a statue into a human so one of her loyal followers could have the statue as his wife.

